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Japan

Tokyo Reportedly Ready To Lift Rice Import Ban

OW3011002392 Tokyo KYODO in English 2354 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] The ASAHI SHIMBUN said the government has found it impossible to persuade other countries' negotiating in the Uruguay Round of trade talks to accept its request to exclude rice from the proposed replacement of import curbs with tariffs.

Talks on the trade round are nearing a conclusion following the settlement of a farm trade dispute between the United States and the European Community (EC).

Washington and Brussels reached agreement on November 20 on U.S. objections to European farm subsidies, unblocking the six-year-old trade talks, sponsored by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The ASAHI said the government will call for a partial review of the proposed tariffication, such as delaying its implementation, through its top farm trade negotiator, Jiro Shiwaku, who left for Geneva on Sunday to join delegates from over 100 nations to wrap up the talks by the latest deadline of December 31.

But it has apparently given up pressing for scrapping of tariffication, in which the tariffs would be gradually reduced, the newspaper said.

Japan has argued that it needs to ban imports in order to maintain self-sufficiency in rice, its staple food, for reasons of food security. South Korea has also resisted pressure to end its ban on rice imports.

Spokesman Koichi Kato Comments

OW3011043992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 30 KYODO—Japan may eventually make a "political decision" to make a concession at the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks on its rice import ban, the chief Japanese Government spokesman said Monday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato told a regular press conference that the government may ultimately have to make a "political decision" on a draft proposal that calls for converting all nontariff barriers in farm trade into tariffs.

He indicated that until then, Japan will continue opposing the proposal.

It was the first time for the top government spokesman to indicate there was room for compromise at the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations being held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Kato said, however, that a political decision on the issue would not be made in the near future.

He declined to elaborate on the timing, saying it depends on the negotiations currently under way.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, however, said Monday that there has been no change in Japan's policy of seeking an exemption for rice in the proposed tariffication of farm imports.

The Japanese daily ASAHI SHIMBUN reported Monday that Japan is moving to lift its long-standing ban on rice imports to avoid overseas criticism that it is blocking a final accord on world trade talks.

It said the government has found it impossible to persuade other countries participating in the Uruguay Round to accept its request to exclude rice from the proposed tariffication.

Talks on the trade round are nearing a conclusion following the settlement of a farm trade dispute between the United States and the European Community.

Miyazawa Reiterates Rice Position

OW3011044492 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 30 Nov 92

[From "NHK News" program]

[Text] Today, Prime Minister Kiicho Miyazawa talked about the Uruguay Round of talks and reiterated once again that there is no change in the past position of the Japanese Government in that it cannot accept tariffication without exception. Speaking to reporters about the trade talks in which liberalization of the rice market has become a focal point, the prime minister said Japan must ask what it needs to ask.

Prime Minister Miyazawa said General Secretary Dunkel's draft agreement will have to be revised in one way or another. At that time, Japan will ask what it should, he said.

He thus indicated that when Dunkel's draft is revised to reflect the recent agreement between the United States and the EC on farm issues, Japan would ask that the rule of tariffication without exception be revised as well.

Asked by reporters if he thought the Japanese position would be accepted, Prime Minister Miyazawa only replied: We are only beginning.

In connection with this topic, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato in a news conference this morning said the government does not think General Secretary Dunkel's draft is final and that it would make all possible efforts to have the Japanese position recognized.

Foreign Minister Views Clinton Policy 27 Nov

OW2811203192 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 28 Nov 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Tokyo—Minister of Foreign Affairs Michio Watanabe discussed the prospects concerning U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton's new policy and the issue of readjusting and reducing military bases in Okinawa at a session of the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs held on the afternoon of 27 November. Watanabe stated: "Because the United States has to reduce its budget deficit, its military facilities overseas will be reduced in the medium-to long-term." At the same time, he indicated that the Foreign Ministry, for its part, "intends to continue coordination with the United States in an effort to reduce" military bases in Okinawa. Keeping the new U.S. Administration's foreign and security policy in mind, the foreign minister made reference to the issue of military bases in Okinawa for the first time prior to the inauguration of the Clinton administration. Watanabe made these remarks in reply to questions asked by Kosuke Uehara (of the Social Democratic Party) and Saneyoshi Furugen (of the Japan Communist Party).

Uehar and other committee members expressed their feeling of crisis concerning the fact that President-elect Clinton has launched an idea to set up UN emergency operation forces for promoting peace- keeping operations. They asked the foreign minister about the possibility that Japan's share of "Omoiyari yosan" ["consideration budget"—allocation of funds for the upkeep of U.S. troops in Japan] will be increased and military bases in Okinawa will be strengthened following the setting up of the proposed forces. In reply to their questions, Foreign Minister Watanabe stated: "Even after the change of power from Bush to Clinton, the basis of U.S. diplomatic policy will remain unchanged." In this way, the foreign minister indicated that there will be no drastic changes in U.S. diplomatic policy toward Japan. Moreover, speaking about the possible increase in Japan's burden sharing and reinforcement of military bases in Okinawa, Watanabe stressed: "I think there is nothing to worry about. For the medium-to long- term perspective, the trend will move toward a scale-down of military bases."

Concerning the issue of recently increasing accidents during exercises on the U.S. military bases in Okinawa, Furugen strongly stated: "Exercises should be immediately suspended." However, Foreign Minister Watanabe promptly refused the request, saying: "We cannot afford to demand that the U.S. military forces stop their exercises." And, he simply stated that "he intends to earnestly ask the U.S. military forces to take some measures to prevent accidents."

In addition, both Uehara and Furugen stated that continuing attacks of the Pol Pot faction in Cambodia mean a "violation of the cease-fire accord," and asked the foreign minister about the possibility that Japan's activities in Cambodia are violating the Peacekeeping Operation Law. Moreover, they questioned Foreign Minister Watanabe about the Japanese Government's stance on the idea of setting up UN armed forces proposed by UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali. In indicating his understanding that "the Pol Pot faction's action is a guerrilla act, not a use of force," Foreign Minister Watanabe denied that there was a violation of the cease-fire accord. With regard to Dr. Ghali's idea, the foreign minister stated: "I have no idea. I have to see details of the idea, first. However, the United Nations must make contributions to efforts to keep order. I cannot clearly say that I support Dr. Ghali's idea. But, I am now studying it." Thus, Foreign Minister Watanabe indicated his positive attitude toward Dr. Ghali's idea.

Tokyo To Send Official To Meet Clinton's Team

OW2911040192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0345 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—The government plans to send a senior Foreign Ministry official to the United States next month for talks with members of U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton's transition team prior to an expected Washington visit by Japan's foreign minister, Foreign Ministry sources said Sunday.

The official, Yukio Sato, director general of the North American Affairs Bureau, is likely to sound out Clinton's Japan policy and negotiate schedules of the foreign minister's U.S. visit expected to take place in mid-January, the sources said.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Friday that Japan's top diplomat should visit the United States before President-elect Bill Clinton takes office on January 20.

Apparently referring to an expected reshuffling of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's cabinet in December, he added, "although I am not sure whether I will go, I think the foreign minister who represents Japan should go before (Clinton's) inauguration."

The Foreign Ministry has so far refrained from contacting Clinton's transition team because the framework of Clinton's administration has yet to be formulated, the sources said.

But the ministry is determined to dispatch Sato since Clinton will likely choose major economic ministers by mid-December, they added.

They also said that top leaders of the European Community (EC) are scheduled to meet Clinton in Washington in December during U.S.-EC summit meetings there.

U.S. Envoy Comments on Security Treaty Revision

OW3011104492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 30 KYODO—The Japan-U.S. Security Treaty is unlikely to come under pressure for revision after the January inauguration of President-elect Bill Clinton, U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Armacost said Monday.

"I discern no pressure to revise our security treaty," Armacost said in a speech at a Tokyo hotel.

With the two countries' diminished perception of a common military threat from the former Soviet Union, the resilience of the Japan-U.S. security arrangements has increasingly come under doubt.

Armacost predicted, however, that under the incoming Clinton administration, Washington will remain committed to a strong military presence in Japan and the wider Asia-Pacific region.

"I think it is widely understood that our forward-deployed forces (in Japan) give us both greater security at a low cost."

Armacost said the U.S. military presence in Japan also serves "as a source of reassurance to other Asian countries."

Some Asian countries have voiced concerns that Japan may seek to fill a possible security vacuum in the region, considering the anticipated U.S. focus on its domestic problems and an increasing American reluctance to continue footing the bill for the security of its key economic competitor.

Armacost said, however, that Japan's "generous" host-nation support has stimulated greater congressional support for U.S. presence. Japan has pledged to bear an almost equal amount of the expenses incurred by U.S. Forces here by 1995.

Armacost said reservations in Japan about the prospect of a Democratic president, including concerns that America will become protectionist and absorbed with domestic matters at the expense of international interests, "are probably exaggerated."

The envoy said, however, the incoming administration, setting its Japan policy for the next four years, will be closely watching how Japan tackles its increasing trade surplus with the U.S. and the world, as well as Tokyo's negotiating posture in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

"Curiously, although Japan's trade surplus with the world is surging, Japanese officials display rather limited concerns about foreign reactions to the surge," Armacost said.

"I find it vastly amusing that the Finance Ministry manages each month to find some ingenious way to attribute the most recent increase in the surplus to yet another 'one-time factor,'" he said.

Armacost noted that Japan's proposed demand stimulus package has been criticized as "a day late" and "a dollar short."

Alluding to Japan's reluctance to open its rice market, Armacost said, "The time for Japanese decisions has come. There is no place to hide. No excuses about Diet problems or upcoming elections will spare Japan its share of blame if the (Uruguay) Round now fails."

Armacost said that throughout the many months that the focus has been on U.S.-European Community agricultural talks, "Japan has been largely sitting on its hands, professing the hope that the stalemate would be broken." Ironically, he said, Japan is "displaying anxiety now that this desire appears fulfilled."

Tokyo To Install Detector on Russian Reactor

OW2711131792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1222 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 KYODO—Japan agreed Friday to install a device to detect nuclear accidents on a Russian reactor to deter recurrence of a mishap similar to the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Japanese officials said.

The agreement came at a meeting in Tokyo of officials from the Japanese Science and Technology Agency and the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy, agency officials said.

Officials from the two sides picked as a candidate for the installation the No. 2 reactor at a nuclear power plant in the former Leningrad, renamed St. Petersburg after the breakup of the Soviet Union, they said.

The million-kilowatt nuclear reactor has the same outdated design as the Chernobyl reactor that released huge amounts of radioactive waste into the atmosphere in a 1986 mishap.

Both reactors use graphite in control rods to adjust the speed of nuclear fission activity.

The Science and Technology Agency plans to dispatch Japanese experts to examine the St. Petersburg power plant next year to determine where the detector is to be installed on the reactor, they said.

The device issues an early warning to reactor operators when abnormalities occur inside the reactor, by detecting the sound of leaking water when leakage takes place.

Nuclear reactors use water as a coolant to slow down the nuclear fission reaction.

When cooling water leaks from a reactor, the core of the reactor can melt down in the worst case due to the heat created by the nuclear fission.

Ministry Spokesman Views Venezuelan Coup Attempt

OW2711232292 Tokyo KYODO in English 2309 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 28 KYODO—A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed regret Friday night over an abortive coup in Venezuela.

The spokesman said Japan deplores the second coup attempt this year against the democratically elected government of President Carlos Andres Perez.

Ozawa Defends Takeshita Against Allegation

OW2711155492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1526 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 KYODO—Tatsuo Ozawa, a senior ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) member of the House of Representatives, denied an allegation Friday that former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita gave false testimony in the Diet on Thursday in connection with a memo reportedly written by Takeshita.

Earlier in the day, Masaru Urata, an LDP member of the House of Councillors, accused Takeshita of perjuring himself in sworn Diet testimony about a memo promising Takeshita's full support for former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka.

Takeshita was testifying under oath to the budget committee of the House of Representatives on his alleged involvement in the money-and-mobster Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

Asked about the memo, said to have been written before the 1987 LDP presidential election, Takeshita told the committee he had not written it, adding, "the handwriting is far better than mine."

In the memo, Takeshita supposedly promised to protect Tanaka, Takeshita's political mentor.

Takeshita formed a study group called Sosei-kai within the Tanaka faction in February 1985 and then formed his own faction named Keisei-kai in July 1987, splitting the Tanaka faction.

With the creation of Keisei-kai, the Tanaka faction splintered into three groups—one led by Takeshita, another headed by Susumu Nikaido loyal to Tanaka and the other declaring a neutral stance.

At the time Takeshita is alleged to have written the memo promising support for Tanaka, Takeshita badly needed endorsement from former Tanaka faction members to win the intraparty election.

According to Urata, Taisuo Ozawa and Hajime Ishii, both LDP lower house members, were present at the signing of the memo, as was the late upper house member Shin Hasegawa.

In an interview with a Tokyo television aired Friday night, Ozawa, however, said Takeshita's signature on the memo is false, adding he himself wrote the sentence on it.

If Takeshita is proved to have committed perjury concerning the memo, the former prime minister could face three months to 10 years in prison under the Diet testimony law.

Kanemaru Reportedly Denies Takeshita's Mob Links

OW2811071492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0650 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 28 KYODO—Retired political kingpin Shin Kanemaru has acknowledged his responsibility for having maintained links with a gangland boss but denied former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's involvement in the matter, shorthand records of Kanemaru's bedside testimony showed Saturday.

Kanemaru said he would "accept the punishment if found guilty of taking a helping hand from the underworld boss and paying greetings to him," according to the documents released by the House of Representatives' budget committee.

Kanemaru, 78, who testified at his bedside Friday over his role in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mobster scandal, clearly acknowledged the receipt of the 500 million yen from the now defunct delivery firm and also his links with Susumu Ishii, the now deceased head of the Inagawa-kai syndicate, one of Japan's three major gang groups.

The one-time kingmaker, however, said Takeshita had nothing to do with the 500 million yen fund, nor any links with the Yakuza boss or rightists.

The budget committee released the 72-page, 35,000-word shorthand account on Kanemaru's testimony, taken at the Odawara Municipal Hospital in Kanagawa Prefecture on Friday, to which he was admitted on November 16 for eye surgery.

The budget committee grilled Takeshita and Hiroyasu Watanabe, the former president of Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co. on Thursday, and Kanemaru on Friday, as part of its efforts to look into the scandal.

Watanabe, acting on Kanemaru's request, is reported to have asked Yakuza boss Ishii to stop a 1987 harassment campaign against Takeshita, who was at that time seeking the presidency of the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the prime ministership.

On Thursday, Takeshita appeared as a sworn witness before the lower house budget committee. Watanabe was questioned the same day by committee members at the Tokyo detention house.

After a review of the testimonies, four opposition parties jointly called Saturday for summoning Kanemaru's one-time political secretary, Masahisa Haibara, as a sworn witness before the budget committee to clarify the distribution of 500 million yen in illegal political donations Kanemaru received from Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co., opposition sources said.

At Friday's questioning, Kanemaru urged opposition questioners to ask Haibara about the distribution of the 500 million yen.

The money was reportedly given to about 60 LDP politicians and conservative candidates running in the 1990 general election for the House of Representatives.

The Social Democratic Party, Komeito, Japanese Communist Party and the Democratic Socialist Party also proposed Saturday summoning Masaru Urata, an LDP member in the House of Councillors, as an unsworn witness in Monday's intensive deliberation on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, they said.

Urata said Friday he was witness to actions that prove Takeshita lied under oath in the Diet.

Kanemaru, who resigned as LDP vice president in late August, gave up his lower house seat in mid-October after paying a 200,000 yen fine for violating the political funds control law, which bans politicians from accepting over 1.5 million yen from a single person or corporation in a year.

Takeshita, in his sworn testimony before the budget committee, denied allegations that he knew the Yakuza syndicate boss helped stop the 1987 harassment campaign done by a rightist group.

He also rejected an opposition request that he resign from the lower house.

All opposition parties have demanded that Takeshita also be summoned as a sworn witness before the House of Councillors budget committee, saying his testimony added to the mystery surrounding the scandal.

Tokyo Sagawa's Watanabe, who is in jail on charges of aggravated breach of trust, refused Friday to answer most of the questions asked by representatives of the lower house committee, saying they are related to his trial.

He is being tried in the Tokyo District Court on charges of squandering 95.2 billion yen in funds of the trucking firm through loans and loan guarantees.

Tanabe Demands Takeshita's Resignation From Diet

OW2811125292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1239 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Kanazawa Nov. 28 KYODO—Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe said Saturday his party will force former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to resign over a money-and-mobster scandal.

The leader of the largest opposition party told reporters in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, that it is necessary to summon Takeshita again to the Diet to testify about the scandal.

"(Takeshita) should take responsibity after testifying before the Diet," Tanabe said.

Tanabe said his party and other opposition parties will submit a resolution demanding Takeshita resign after they summon him to testify in the House of Councillors.

Testifying before the House of Representatives budget committee as a sworn witness Thursday, Takeshita categorically denied allegations that mobsters were involved in his becoming president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in 1987.

Takeshita said he did not ask for help from Susumu Ishii, the late leader of the Inagawa-kai crime syndicate, to stop a harassment campaign by the rightist group Nihon Kominto (Emperor's Subjects Party of Japan).

Takeshita said he has no intention of giving up his Diet seat because of the allegations that mobsters helped silence the group's smear campaign against him in 1987, when he was seeking the party presidency, which carries with it the prime ministership.

Hiroyasu Watanabe, the former president of the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin trucking company who is at the center of the scandal, allegedly asked Ishii to stop the smear campaign against Takeshita at the request of fallen LDP kingpin Shin Kanemaru.

The SDP chairman also said his party will demand that Masahisa Haibara, a secretary to Kanemaru, be summoned to the current Diet session to testify as a sworn witness.

The 78-year-old Kanemaru, who resigned from the Diet last month after receiving a summary indictment for accepting an illicit 500 million yen political donation from Watanabe, said in Friday's bedside questioning by a parliamentary panel that he does not know how the money was spent because Haibara was in charge of funds.

Miyazawa To Reorganize Cabinet in Mid-December

OW2811080592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0757 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa plans to reorganize the cabinet and party lineup shortly after the current extraordinary Diet session ends next month, political sources said Saturday.

The 40-day Diet session is scheduled to close on December 8 but will probably be extended for about three days through December 11, the sources said.

The shuffling of the cabinet and party lineup will come immediately after that, they said.

The cabinet and the Liberal Democratic Party leadership are reorganized every year since the term of top LDP officers is one year.

Miyazawa, who was elected LDP president in late October 1991 for a two-year term, named the incumbent cabinet in November that year.

Political attention is focusing on to whom Miyazawa will give the post of the LDP secretary general to replace Tamisuke Watanuki.

It is not clear whether Miyazawa will give the key party post to the No. 1 faction, founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and until last month headed by political kingpin Shin Kanemaru.

Since Kanemaru's retirement from the Diet last month, the largest faction apparently is splitting into two groups—one led by Keizo Obuchi, who is regarded as one of Takeshita's closest aides, and the other by Ichiro Ozawa, once regarded as Kanemaru's heir.

Among those tipped for the post is Seiroku Kajiyama, the incumbent chairman of the LDP Diet Affairs Committee, who belongs to the Obuchi group.

Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Michio Watanabe, and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, a former transport minister and head of the party's No. 2 faction, are also among candidates for the post if Miyazawa picks someone outside the Takeshita faction.

Official Queries OECD Predictions for Tokyo

OW2711002192 Tokyo KYODO in English 2309 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 27 KYODO—Japanese economic growth, powered by domestic demand, is likely to recover to around 3 percent by the second half of 1993 from 1.8 percent this year, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Friday.

But the expected recovery in domestic demand in the second half of 1993 to 3 percent from this year's 1.3 percent is likely to lead to an upturn in imports, thus reducing the contribution to economic growth from the external sector, the Paris-based think tank of 24 industrial countries said in an annual survey of the Japanese economy.

Real growth as measured by gross domestic product (GDP) for 1993 as a whole should then average around 2.5 percent, rising to around 3.5 percent in 1994, the OECD said, revising downward from the growth rate of 3.1 percent for 1993 predicted in June.

GDP measures the total final value of goods and services produced within a country, while gross national product (GNP) is GDP plus net income from abroad.

Trade and current-account surpluses are expected to continue their uptrend since 1991, with a trade surplus forecast of 152 billion dollars and current-account surplus of 126.7 billion dollars for 1993 instead of the 130 billion and 93 billion dollars predicted in June.

By the second half of 1993, the trade surplus is expected to reach around 3.5 percent of GDP, with the current account surplus at around 3 percent.

The economic growth rate this year is unchanged at 1.8 percent from its forecast in June, due largely to the government's pump- priming package launched in August despite a downward revision in personal spending, capital spending and housing investment.

The OECD expects business and consumer confidence to recover steadily with support from the fiscal policy. But it revised downward its forecast for the whole of 1993 because personal consumption and nonresidential investment are expected to be lower than it forecast in June.

An official of the Japanese Economic Planning Agency, briefing reporters in Tokyo, said the OECD's forecast of economic growth appears "a little low."

This is largely due to the differences in how the OECD and the agency see the effects of the economic package, he said.

Also, the minus growth in capital spending predicted by the OECD is not reasonable and residential spending in terms of housing starts is expected to increase much more, he added.

As for long-term growth prospects, the OECD said growth potential is still estimated to be around 3.75 percent.

The recent declines in broad money supply—M2 (cash in circulation and demand and time deposits, and certificates of deposit) stem from falling corporate demand for funds due to higher borrowing costs, and are also a reflection of the greater risk-awareness of banks, it said.

Although some degree of flexibility remains available to monetary authorities, such concerns as reigniting inflation and weakening the yen through an easier policy will complicate their task, the OECD said.

As for fiscal policy, Japan appears to be the one major OECD country to have scope for policy easing but this flexibility has already been exploited in the "front-loading of public works projects and additional public spending amounting to 1.8 percent of GDP," the OECD said.

Concern about future fiscal demands arising from the rapid aging of the population will also limit further fiscal policy easing.

The OECD said the August economic package raises two major concerns—either of slippage or of inflation in the construction sector if private investment recovers more rapidly than expected, and the rapidity of implementation may make it difficult to ensure that public funds are spent in an efficient way.

The annual study, titled Economic Survey Japan 1992, conducted by the Economic Development and Review Committee, encompasses a wide range of topics from microeconomics to structural problems.

Selecting "competition policy" as the structural issue this year, the OECD criticized Japan's persistent impediments to foreign access and called for further structural reforms for the benefits of consumers and global partners.

The exclusive "keiretsu" corporate grouping system, especially in the wholesale sector, leads to heavy costs in creating a distribution network.

For consumers, retail-pricing practices, the exclusive sales agent system, the "keiretsu" distribution network and other "vertical restraints" of competition constitute a heavy burden.

Government regulation appears costly for consumers, particularly in the agricultural sector, where taxpayer and consumer subsidies to farmers amount to 66 percent of farm production. This compares with 49 percent in the European Community and 30 percent in the United States, the OECD said.

North Korea

KCNA Details 27 Nov JNCC Meeting

SK2711154792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1527 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Panmunjom November 27 (KCNA)—The 11th meeting of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC] was held today at Tongilgak in our part of Panmunjom.

At the meeting the North side said:

The only way of removing the grave obstacles from the road of realising the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula at present is that the South side should positively respond at an early date to the just proposal of the North to put forward constructive overtures for the implementation of the joint declaration on denuclearization and consult them in earnest on the basis of the withdrawal of the agreement on resuming the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

But the South side averted an answer to the just proposal of the North and attempted to get rid of the responsibility for delaying the nuclear inspection of the North and the South, talking about "special inspection" and "inspection of ordinary military bases" which are not referred to in the agreed points of both sides, and failed to justify the decision to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

In this connection the North side asked why the South side [word indistinct] lip-service to the "age of reconciliation and cooperation" is going to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and exposed with facts that the resumption of the military exercises is a move to pursue a sinister purpose in league with the outside forces.

Concluding the meeting, our side stressed that the South side should give up the stand of depending on the outside forces and make a decision to realise the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula [words indistinct] South dialogue with a subjective stand of the nation.

A closed-door contact between [words indistinct] of the two sides was held according to the proposal of the North side.

It was agreed to decide the date of the next meeting of the Joint Nuclear Control Committee through the hot line of the Panmumjom liaison office.

No Agreement Reached

SK2711133692 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1213 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] The 11th round of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC] meeting was held at Tongilgak, our side's region of Panmunjom, on 27 November.

First of all, our side reminded the South that at a time when the annexed agreement to implement the basic agreement in each field was adopted and took effect at the eighth round of North-South high-level talks so that it was possible to operate all joint committees, and negotiations to adopt a regulation for the North-South nuclear inspection for the implementation of the joint declaration on denuclearization were being carried out smoothly, the South side suddenly agreed with the United States to resume the joint military exercise Team Spirit. Our side also reminded the South that on this issue, we had demanded in past meetings that it rescind this decision by the end of November.

Our side then revealed that various channels of North-South dialogues which are frozen, including the JNCC meeting to implement the joint declaration on denuclearization, will be opened in accordance with the South side's attitude in today's meeting. Our side further revealed that today's meeting will also determine whether or not the general matters agreed upon between the North and South will be implemented.

Our side said the South side is attempting to rationalize its decision to resume the Team Spirit exercises by offering various unreasonable excuses. Our side said that regardless of the background and decision to resume the Team Spirit exercises, which are part of U.S. policy to invade all Asia, it cannot be justified in any way. Our side also said that it cannot hide the nature of the aggressive nuclear war test. Our side continued to elucidate that the South side can by no means free itself from the responsibility of postponing North-South nuclear inspection. Moreover, if the South continues to carry out fully the joint military exercises with the United States, it must assume responsibility for any consequences before the nation and history.

Our side also emphasized that if the JNCC work is aborted because of the resumption of the Team Spirit exercises, then this will constitute a serious barrier in implementing our nuclear safeguards accord. Our side said the South should also be responsible for this.

Our side stated that the only way to break the severe deadlock on the denuclearizing the Korean peninsula is for the South side to agree to our just proposal as soon as possible. Our side has proposed that the South rescind its decision to resume the Team Spirit exercises, announce this decision at home and abroad by any means by the end of November, avoid any kind of military exercise mobilizing foreign nuclear weapons and related equipment within the territories belonging to the Korean peninsula, and both sides present and seriously discuss constructive proposals for the implementation of the joint declaration on denuclearization based on rescinding the decision to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercises.

The South, however, failed to respond to our just proposal and attempted to evade the responsibility for the delay of North-South nuclear inspections by talking about special inspections and inspections of ordinary military bases, which are not specified in the agreement between the two sides. It also made incoherent and absurd remarks to rationalize its decision to resume the Team Spirit exercises.

In this regard, our side asked specifically why the South, which is talking about the age of reconciliation and cooperation, blocks peace and peaceful reunification and exacerbates division and confrontation by aggravating tensions in the country and participates in the Team Spirit joint military exercises, which will bring a nuclear disaster to the nation.

Our side described the South side's intention to resume the Team Spirit exercises by following the United States as a sellout and a traitorous act of no concern for the common interests of the nation and a maneuver designed to pursue some insidious purposes by illicit connection with foreign forces.

Also, our side noted that if the South really wants North-South dialogue, it should value North-South agreements, including the joint declaration on denuclearization and insisted that neither side has the right to unilaterally disregard or cancel the North-South agreements that were agreed to and announced by both sides.

Concluding the meeting, our side said the South should abandon its policy of relying on foreign forces and should make a brave decision to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula through North-South dialogue, relying on a national, independent position. Our side once again strongly urged the South to announce its withdrawal from the Team Spirit joint military exercise by the end of November.

Next, the chairmen of both sides met privately at our side's suggestion. After the meeting, the chairmen of both sides agreed to decide on the date for the next meeting through a direct telephone call to the liaison office at Panmunjom.

U.S. Congressman Quoted on Japan's Nuclear Plans

SK2611000892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 25 Nov 92

[Text] Pyongyang November 25 (KCNA)—Pete Stark, a Democratic member of the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress, in an article contributed to the U.S. paper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR on November 17 said that Japan should reassess its nuclear energy plan and prevent proliferation of nuclear materials which can be used as ingredients of components of nuclear weapons, according to a report from Washington.

He said that Tokyo's program to purchase scores of tons of plutonium from Europe in 20 years is a "serious and unnecessary threat to the security and welfare of the international community".

The real danger of Japan's plutonium program lies in that it can be a catalyst for nuclear proliferation, he said.

Discord in Russian Supreme Soviet Examined

SK2911033092 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 17 Nov 92

[Text] Complicated developments have been taking place in Russia with the convening of the Congress of People's Deputies around the corner. According to a ITAR-TASS report, in a 12 November news conference, leaders of Russian Unity, an opposition bloc, called for restraining people who had been preparing to declare a state of emergency in the country.

They insisted that the Russian president's aides have been planning to disband the Russian Congress of People's Deputies and Supreme Soviet. Deputy Mikhail (Astatyev) stressed that the Russian Constitution does not stipulate direct presidential rule and that a state of emergency can be declared only under the Supreme Soviet's consent. He pointed out that the attitude of considering the parliament to be an obstacle to reforms had been artificially bred in Russian society in order to disband it.

At the 13 November session of the Russian Supreme Soviet, quoting a reliable Kremlin source, (Iona Andronov), vice chairman of the International Affairs and External Economic Relations Committee of the parliament, insisted that the plan had been mapped out to disband the Russian parliament on 24 or 25 November. ITAR-TASS reported that his remarks resounded in the meeting hall like a bombshell. (Andronov) said that the presidential office and government offices had been planning this measure and that a state of emergency would be declared after the parliament is disbanded. He also insisted that a presidential secretary for state affairs, the minister of the press and the mass media, and the minister of defense had been involved in this issue.

In connection with this, the minister of the press and the mass media denied that he was involved in mapping out the plan, adding: If a plan to declare a state of emergency did exist, the plan may have been mapped out by the general chief of staff.

The Russian president's information officer said that the remarks by Deputy (Andronov) reflected the utter insanity of some circles in parliament.

In the 14 November interview given to a news program of (Ostantino), a television station, the Russian minister of defense rebutted (Adronov's) accusation that he was trying to play a key role in staging a coup d'etat [kukkajongbyon] and in disbanding the parliament. He said: Declaring a state of emergency across the country is unthinkable. The situation, however, in some regions where people are dying and where blood is being shed because of ethnic conflicts demands that emergency measures be taken.

During a speech to participants in a meeting of regional Soviet leaders on 14 November, Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, pointed out that alleviating extreme political tension in the upper echelon of the power bodies, rather than in society, is one of the Russian parliament's most important tasks. He also said that the minister of press and mass media made some remarks during a news conference denouncing the Supreme Soviet. Referring to the rumors that a state of emergency would be declared in the Russian Federation, he stated that a state of emergency cannot be declared without the Supreme Soviet's consent. He also said that irrespective of who is involved, any such attempt would be considered to be a coup d'etat and that anyone who organizes it would be committing a crime against the state. He also said that presidential rule, parliamentary rule, or any other ruling system than the ruling system which complies with the Constitution cannot exist. He also said that acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar virtually cannot control the government and that all the ministers behave like they are the prime minister.

The chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet also pointed out that trying to postpone the date for convening the Congress of People's Deputies, which the Supreme Soviet had decided on, is a fruitless effort. He also pointed out that 1 December, the date for convening the congress, is what was decided upon at the two rounds of meetings of deputies.

The Russian president and the leaders of the republics of the Russian Federation have asked the parliament to postpone the convening of the Congress of People's Deputies up until next spring. The parliament, however, has not complied with the request.

During a news conference, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Russian Citizens League, said that to constructively hold the Russian Congress of People's Deputies, before the congress begins, the president must revise his economic policies, change the government structure accordingly, and express his willingness to meet factions of the parliament. He reiterated the Citizens League's opposition to the implementation of a presidential control system in Russia, adding that this would threaten constitutional rule and accelerate a divisionist tendency in the Russian Federation.

Pyongyang Municipal Delegation Returns From Cuba

SK3011022592 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] A Pyongyang Municipal delegation led by Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee Vice Chairman Paek Hak-yon, who visited Cuba, flew home on 27 November.

The delegation was greeted at the airport by Kim Pong-ho, first vice chairman of Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee, and (Legal Vuentes), an interim charge d'affaires of the Republic of Cuba to our country.

SPA Deputies To Register on 9, 10 Dec

SK2811223192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 28 Nov 92

["Public Information on Convening the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly"—read by announcer]

[Text] The DPRK Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] Standing Committee informs deputies to the SPA that the Fourth Session of the Ninth SPA will be convened in 11 December 1992 in Pyongyang.

The registration of deputies will take place on 9 and 10 December at Mansudae Assembly Hall.

[Signed] The DPRK SPA Standing Committee
[Dated] 28 November 1992, Pyongyang

Article Assails DLP's Deceptive Elections Plans

SK2611235792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0015 GMT 14 Nov 92

[NODONG SINMUN 24 November special article: "Democratic Liberal Party's Propaganda About a Fair Election Is a Falsehood"]

[Text] Cohorts of South Korea's Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] have propagandized hard that they would hold a fair and aboveboard presidential election scheduled for later this year. They also have babbled that No Tae-u's departure from the DLP and the formation of a neutral cabinet had provided all conditions for a fair election.

In particular, DLP presidential candidate Kim Yong-sam has propagandized fervently that the DLP would hold a fair election. He babbles everyday that he would not rely on government power even if he loses the election as a result and that he would spend money for the election within the limits stipulated in the election law. Then, do Kim Yong-sam and his cohorts say so because they have a genuine will to hold a fair election? That is not true.

Just like selling one thing for another, what lies behind their propaganda that they would hold a fair election is their insidious plan to use government power and fraudulent means in the upcoming presidential election, just like they did in the previous elections, for the DLP to regain power.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Free democratic elections are unthinkable at a place there are infringements on the people's democratic rights and the suppression of patriotic movements.

If a fair election is to be held in South Korea, all systematic and legal devices that block or restrain the people, sovereigns, from expressing their opinions must be removed and completely free and democratic atmospheres must prevail in society. Then, how is South Korean reality? South Korea is the worst wasteland of democracy in the late 20th century where a vicious system of fascist suppression that rejects democracy, human rights, and freedom still exists, where people from all walks of life who demand freedom and democracy become victims of saber-rattling at any time, and where injustice obliterates justice. It is also a turbulent place where fascism is rampant. It is clear to anyone that an election that is held in such a place cannot be fair.

The DLP's propaganda that the presidential election will be held fairly because No Tae-u departed from the DLP and because a neutral cabinet for managing the election was formed is a shameless deception. No Tae-u's departure from the DLP is a deceptive political drama designed to keep the ruling and opposition parties in check by insisting on neutrality and curry favor with the people, thus finding ways for his survival after he leaves office. The neutral cabinet is, in reality, a mere new dictatorial cabinet that No Tae-u formed by having former military leaders or those—who served for the previous fascist regimes—wear hats called neutrality. It is very clear that a cabinet of this nature cannot maintain neutrality or fairly manage the election.

That the DLP's propaganda about a fair election is a falsehood is also clearly proven by the fact that it resolutely opposes a plan to hold elections of chiefs of autonomous regional administrative units before the end of this year. The DLP has openly babbled that because a neutral cabinet was formed, there is no justifiable reason to hold elections of chiefs of autonomous regional administrative units before the end of this year and that its plan not to hold those elections before the end of this year has not changed. In this way, the DLP disclosed its ulterior motive of easily fabricating the election victory of its presidential candidate by holding the presidential election when its cohorts are serving in regional administrative offices.

The DLP is talking about a fair election, even while stating that it would not hold elections of chiefs of autonomous regional administrative units, which must be held for a fair presidential election, under the pretext that a neutral cabinet was formed. This is preposterous and a mockery of the people.

Kim Yong-sam's cohorts' busy movements behind the signboard of a fair election also show that the DLP's promise for a fair election is a mere lie. South Korea's HANGYORE SINMUN has reported that Hanmaekhoe and other private organizations of Kim Yong-sam's are busily maneuvering to drag the voters to the political scene tainted by money and government power. It has also reported that those organizations, saying that the votes of young people in their 20's and 30's determine the result of the election, are frantically carrying out activities to gather 110,000 members and collect 7.7 billion won in operational funds. Also, the DLP's youth office, which played a significant role in irregularities and frauds in the previous parliamentary elections, is speeding up the formation of organizations for mobilizing youth and students in preparations for the presidential election.

Political dealers who, seized with a desire for power, join this party on one day and join another party on another day say that they would hold a fair election. This is a nonsense.

The Agency for National Security Planning has recently staged anti-Republic slander dramas one after another, thus suppressing opposition circles and forces for reunification and democracy. In this way, it has gotten openly involved in the election. Also, soldiers in the puppet

forces were ordered to cast ballots to the DLP. This is necessary for the military fascist forces' regaining of power.

Kim Yong-sam and his cohorts have frequently talked about a fair election in order to conceal their dirty colors as those who are good at election frauds and to curry favor with the people. Under the pretext of No Tae-u's departure from the DLP and the formation of a neutral cabinet, they not only oppose the holding of elections of chiefs of autonomous regional administrative units before the end of this year, which dissident democratic forces demand, but also try to retain the current regime's offices for suppression and violence and its vicious fascist laws. In this way, they try to efficiently use their confidants and agents for suppression, whom they have installed in regional administrative units, in election frauds. This treacherous act by the DLP cohorts urges dissident democratic forces in South Korea to awaken themselves.

If one expects that a fair election will be held because the South Korean ruler departed from the DLP and because a specious neutral cabinet was formed, one is very naive. As history shows, dictatorial forces do not abandon their power of their own accord. For the DLP, a group of those who have ambitions for power, to abandon its power is all the more unthinkable. For people of this nature to regain power, they will have no alternative but to hold a fraudulent election by using government power.

For a fair and free election, democratic forces in South Korea must continuously and resolutely struggle to form a pan-national neutral cabinet that listens to people from all walks of life, hold elections of chiefs of autonomous regional units before the end of this year, disband the Agency for National Security Planning and other agencies for suppression and violence, and abolish vicious fascist laws. Preventing the military fascist forces from regaining power and establishing a democratic coalition government by waging a united popular struggle is a key to the democratic development of South Korean society.

Daily Views South's 'Illegal Election Campaign'

SK2911103692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0829 GMT 29 Nov 92

["Illegal 'Election Campaign'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 29 (KCNA)—The "presidential candidate" of the "Democratic Liberal Party" [DLP] who has paid lip service to "fair election" in South Korea is resorting to all sorts of despicable acts to earn more votes.

NODONG SINMUN says in a signed commentary today:

Even before the date of "presidential election" was announced in South Korea, he formed about 30 private organizations such as "Minju Sanak Society" and "Hanmaek Society" and mobilized them in an operation to secure votes for him.

The "election law" of South Korea prohibits any "election campaign" before the announcement of the date of "election." But, the "presidential candidate" of the "DLP" toured North and South Kyongsang Provinces, Inchon and Chungchong areas, claiming that he was the only person capable of taking office and that he would heal the South Korean "disease" if he took office.

He even got on street cars and buses, begging the passengers to vote for him.

Some time ago, he mobilized artistes in the place of his "election campaign" and even made personal attacks on "candidates" of opposition parties in public places with such words as "cripple" and "octogenarian".

The "government"-subsidized media including those in Kyonggi Province continuously carry articles slandering the "presidential candidates" of the Democratic Party and the National Party and beautifying the "candidate of the DLP" and TV stations overtly telecast pro-"DLP" and partial programmes. But, the "neutral cabinet" closes its eyes to that.

Facts clearly show that the "fair election" advertized by the "DLP" clan is a lie and they are power-careerists who mobilize government power and leave no stone unturned for one more term of the military fascist group.

South Korea

Reportage on Absence of KAL Black Box Tape

Yeltsin Delivered Box 19 Nov

SK2811025992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0243 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—The tape from the flight data recorder of Korean Air Lines (KAL) 007, shot down in 1983 off Sakhalin by a Soviet fighter, was not with the black boxes that were delivered to Seoul by Russian President Boris Yeltsin last week, the Transportation Ministry said Saturday.

The state-run National Institute for Scientific Investigation had confirmed the absence of the tape after a thorough check, a ministry spokesman said.

Yeltsin handed the Korean Government a case Nov. 19 that he said contained the flight data recorder and the cockpit voice recorder, called black boxes despite their being orange, and their tapes. KAL Flight 007 crashed into waters off Sakhalin nine years ago on Sept. 1 with the loss of all 269 people aboard.

Ambassador to Russia Hong Sun-yong, who returned to Moscow Friday after consultations with the government, would try to confirm the absence of the tape with the Russian authorities, he said.

If it is found that the tape went astray in the course of its delivery, the ambassador will ask the Russian Government to find and return it at the earliest possible date.

The official said that it would be difficult to find out how the plane went astray without the tape.

Letter of Protest Given to Russia

SK2811071692 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 28 Nov 92 p 1

[By Moscow correspondent Chang Haeng-hun]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin handed over the black box of Korean Airlines Flight 007 to the ROK Government on 19 November during his visit to the ROK. Since then, the ROK Government has raised the possibility that the essential parts are missing or have been distorted. This will be raised as an important diplomatic issue between the ROK and Russia.

On 26 November, the ROK Government handed a letter of protest to the Russian Foreign Ministry through the ROK Embassy in Moscow.

Sources in Moscow said that President Yeltsin had originally planned to hand over the black box to the International Civil Aviation Organization. Accepting the advice from a diplomatic perspective that it was desirable to hand it over to the ROK Government, President Yeltsin changed his plan and handed it over to the ROK Government. A Russian intelligence agency had removed the essential parts of the black box before they were handed over to the ROK Government during his visit to the ROK.

It was learned that without knowing this, President Yeltsin handed over the black box to the ROK Government during his visit to the ROK.

Government in 'Embarrassing Coverup'

SK2811065692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0627 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government was caught redhanded in an embarrassing coverup Saturday over a diplomatic mistake with Russia.

The Transportation Ministry announced that the black boxes Russia handed over last week from the South Korean passenger plane shot down by a Soviet fighter jet in 1983 were missing the critical tapes from the Flight Data Recorder (FDR) that would explain why the plane strayed into Soviet airspace.

Suspicion immediately mounted that the government had kept the missing tapes a secret to avert direct diplomatic friction with Russia.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin, visiting Seoul last week, personally handed over to South Korean President No Tae-u a case that contained two orange boxes that officials here hastily presumed to be the CVR (Cockpit Voice Recorder) and FDR.

The Transportation Ministry had said it would ask the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to analyze the tapes that came with the boxes, and observers say the government apparently decided to leave the announcement of the missing FDR tapes to the ICAO instead.

The ministry's hastily-arranged press conference was called just after the local Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. broke the story a few hours before.

All 269 people aboard the South Korean aircraft died after it was shot down above Sakhalin. The Soviet Union insisted the plane intruded its airspace on an espionage mission and until recently refused to admit it had recovered the black box that might help to explain why the plane veered off course.

The Foreign Ministry said it will ask Moscow about the missing tapes through South Korean Ambassador to Russia Hong Sun-yong, but officials were skeptical about the response.

They say they cannot press the Russian Government for the FDR tapes or lodge a complaint for omitting them because Moscow never said what was in the case it handed over to Seoul.

"We can ask, but there is no ground for us to press the matter," a ranking ministry official said on condition of anonymity.

"We cannot claim Russia lied to us about the black box. It had been saying all along that it would hand over the black box and the tapes. It never said the tapes were from the FDR," he said. "We just assumed that they were."

Soviets Allegedly Modified Tapes

SK2811080892 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 28 Nov 92 p 2

[Article by Kim Hoe-pyong]

[Text] The black box of the downed Korean Air Lines [KAL] 007, whose key records were found to be missing on delivery, was delivered to our side directly by Russian President Boris Yeltsin when he visited Seoul on 19 November.

Yeltsin was going to send the black box to the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO], but changed his mind prior to his departure for the ROK, based on the suggestion that "direct delivery is desirable from a diplomatic point of view."

According to Moscow sources, the flight data recorder of the black box had been altered by an intelligence agency, and Yeltsin was completely unaware of this when he delivered the black box to the ROK side.

The black box has been the focus of attention since KAL 007 was downed by a Soviet fighter in September 1983 because it was considered to be the only clue to the cause of the incident.

Soon after the incident, the Soviet Union admitted its downing of the Korean airliner, but claimed that the plane was a spying for the CIA. The Soviet Union also concealed the fact that it recovered the black box; therefore, the truth of this incident has remained a mystery for a long time.

Meanwhile, in 1990 the Soviet newspaper IZVESTIYA revealed the fact that the black box had been recovered and was being held by Soviet authorities and that the then Soviet leadership modified and falsified the truth, once again drawing the attention of the people of the world.

The black box that Russia handed over to our side on 19 November consisted of two special aluminum boxes, a yellow box of the flight data recorder (FDR) and a red box of the cockpit voice recorder (CVR), each measuring 50 cm x 18 cm x 20 cm.

The black box is supposed to record automatically all the data from a plane's take-off to landing, covering 64 details of the flight including any contingency situation, from altitude, speed, direction, and communications to the conversation in the cockpit.

If the records detailing the cause of the plane's deviation from its route, which is the key to the incident, are missing, however, the KAL 007 incident may remain a mystery forever.

Part of the major contents of the black box have already been made public.

Russia handed over the data for the incident, such as the decoding documents of the black box, directly to the ROK side in Moscow on 14 October.

These data consist of 10 kinds of information, such as the black box analysis data, including the conversation in the cockpit and the communications between the cockpit and the ground control tower for 30 minutes before the downing of the plane; the investigation report submitted to Andropov, then general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; and the joint report of the Soviet Defense Ministry and the KGB Aviation Industry Department.

From the black box analysis data, we were able to confirm graphically, though from a written document, the situation in the plane immediately before the crash, which we had did not know about previously.

The data could not, however, resolve the problem of answering our questions, the key to verifying the truth of the incident, such as why the plane deviated from its route; why not only the pilot but also the control tower were unaware of this deviation for as long as five hours; and why none of the passengers' bodies were found.

Therefore, our government concluded that we need the original copy of the black box to obtain better verification of the truth and requested the Russian Government to do so. The Russian Government acceded to this request and delivered the black box to our government.

Flight Recorder Not in Black Box

SK2811082992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0820 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—The missing of a flight data record (FDR) from the black box of an ill-fated Korean airliner, which was handed to the government by visting Russian President Boris Yeltsin on last Nov. 19, was determined in a study by the national scientific investigation laboratory. [sentence as received]

An official at the Transportation Ministry said Saturday that soon after the Foreign Ministry turned the black box over to his ministry on Nov. 23, ministry officials tried to check the records by themselves. But, as they could not comprehend the records contained in the tapes of the black box due to their poor conditions, the ministry referred the black box to the National Scientific Investigation Laboratory the following day, Nov. 24, for deciphering.

A subsequent examination by the laboratory determined that the black box contained only a cockpit voice record without any flight date record usually containing such flight data as a plane's altitude, location, pressure condition and fuel amount.

At this notice from the laboratory, the Transportation Ministry, with help from the Foreign Ministry, made an extensive check of the whereabouts of the FDR. The outcome of the probe was that the FDR did not exist in the black box from the time it was received from the Russians on Nov. 19, the official said.

Russian Military Possible Culprits

SK2811084092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0825 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korean Ambassador Hong Sun-yong here said Saturday he would ask Russian authorities for the flight data record (FDR) said to have been missing from the black box of the downed Korean airline plane which the Russians handed to Seoul ten days ago.

Saying it is incomprehensible that the FDR is missing from the delivered black box, Hong said he would formally request for the missing data when he meets Kremlin officials on Nov. 30.

The Korean ambassador said he doesn't believe Russian President Boris Yeltsin deliberately took the FDR off the black box before he handed it over to Seoul. "But, I cannot rule it out that a relevant Russian office took the data for keeping," Hong said.

Ambassador Hong said that in view of the fact that the flight course of the downed plane was contained in the KAL-incident materials which President Yeltsin gave him last month, he is sure there originally existed the FDR in the black box.

Western diplomatic sources here said that it was highly possible that Russian military authorities deliberately took the FDR out of the black box.

The sources explained that the Russian military did not want the one-sided publishing of the flight data unfavorable to them in a circumstance where no due explanation was made about the U.S. RS-135 reconnaissance plane that flew about 75 miles from the ill-fated KAL plane around the time of the disaster as well as about why ground air controllers did not warn KAL pilots of their deviation from course.

Seoul Threatens Delay of Loans

SK3011035192 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0310 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official revealed that if indeed Russian President Boris Yeltsin knew a flight data recorder from the black box of KAL 007 was missing when he delivered the black box to the ROK Government on 19 November, the ROK Government will examine the possibilities of taking strong countermeasures, such as delaying the resumption of economic cooperation loans to Russia.

He also said that as of now, this does not appear to be a possibility, but if President Yeltsin did know about this fact beforehand, the ROK Government will discuss taking strong countermeasures, such as requesting a formal apology from the Russian side and delaying the resumption of economic cooperation loans to Russia, until the flight data recorder is handed over to the ROK side.

He said that when the ROK Government is briefed on this situation by the ROK Embassy in Russia, it will hold a minister-level meeting of related departments and discuss in detail ways to deal with this matter. He went on to say that regardless of how the truth comes out, the ROK Government will formally request an official explanation from the Russian Government and aks that it hand over the flight data recorder.

Cockpit Tapes 'Copies'

SK3011064992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0636 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—Shock deepened Monday over the missing tapes from the flight data recorder (FDR) of the South Korean passenger plane shot down in 1983 by the Soviet Union when the four tapes from the cockpit voice recorder (CVR) were found to be copies, some of them recorded backwards.

South Korean Ambassador to Moscow Hong Sun-yong has asked for a direct meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin or his close aides to hear an explanation, but officials here say they are unsure when a meeting will take place.

Yeltsin had handed over a case containing two orange boxes that Seoul presumed to be the FDR and CVR when he was in South Korea Nov. 18-20, but investigation showed the FDR was empty and all four tapes from the CVR were unintelligible due to heavy static.

All four tapes were copies instead of originals, and two of them were recorded backwards, officials here said.

All 269 passengers died when a Soviet fighter jet shot down KAL Flight 007 over Sakhalin in 1983 for straying into Soviet airspace.

The FDR tapes would be critical in explaining why the plane strayed off course and invaded Soviet airspace and whether the fighter jet indeed fired tracers as warnings as Moscow claims.

Hong was to have a meeting with Yeltsin's aides to demand an explanation in Moscow Monday, but the Foreign Ministry here said the schedule is not definite.

If not Monday, the meeting is most likely to be delayed for a considerable time since the Russian Supreme Soviet convenes for a month Dec. 1, according to ministry officials.

"We will not say what we are going to do until we hear first from Moscow about why the FDR tape is missing and the CVR tapes are copies," one official said.

Envoy Seeks Talks With Yeltsin

SK3011083192 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 30 Nov 92 p 2

[Text] A government source revealed on 30 November that ROK Ambassador to Russia Hong Sun-yong was attempting to hold direct talks with President Yeltsin in connection with the KAL 007 black box which was delivered without the flight data recorder [FDR] by President Yeltsin on 19 November while we was visiting the ROK.

The source said the reason the FDR was not delivered by President Yeltsin was not to deceive President No, but the black box was probably hidden by Russia's hard-line conservatives without President Yeltsin's knowledge. The source said it is necessary to have direct contacts to convey accurately the black box issue and the Korean people's response to this matter.

On 26 November, Ambassador Hong explained the need to have direct contacts regarding the black box and delivered a document to the Foreign Ministry requesting an explanation. In addition, Ambassador Hong plans to convey a verbal message in a 30 November meeting with Yuriy Petrov, chief of the president's administration, at the Kremlin.

If Ambassador Hong holds a meeting with President Yeltsin, he will clearly explain the black box situation, seek a reconfirmation of the status of the FDR to maintain the smooth development of relations between the two countries, and emphasize the need to hand it over to the ROK as soon as possible.

Taiwan To Resume Issuing Visas 1 Dec

SK2811113792 Seoul YONHAP in English 1130 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—Taiwan has notified the Seoul Government that it would resume issuing visas to Koreans beginning Dec. 1, a government official said Saturday. Taiwan has suspended visa issuance since their embassy withdrew from Seoul following Seoul-Beijing diplomatic normalization last September.

The official said that Taiwan will handle visa issuance at the Taiwan tourist office at the Hanjin Building in downtown Seoul.

Despite their initial agreement on continuous visa issuance to Koreans, Taiwan has so far handled consular affairs only for Taiwanese people in Korea.

Inter-Korean Nuclear Inspection Talks Collapse

SK2711081592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0758 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (OANA-YONHAP)—The inter-Korean talks on simultaneous nuclear inspections collapsed again Friday, seriously dimming the chances for the prime ministers' meeting next month and all other forms of dialogue.

North Korea repeated its demand for cancellation of the South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise "Team Spirit" next year while Seoul countered that Pyongyang must open up to at least one inspection before it could cancel the exercise, Kong No-myong, southern-side chairman of the Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC), said.

The two sides parted without setting the date for the next meeting, and North Korea rejected even a working-level contact unless Team Spirit were canceled, he said.

South Korea and the United States canceled Team Spirit for this year, but announced they will resume it next year unless there is substantial progress in inter-Korean nuclear talks, meaning at least one simultaneous inspection before the next South-North prime ministers' meeting Dec. 21-24 in Seoul.

Pyongyang claims the exercise is a nuclear war game and insists Seoul has to announce its cancellation by next Monday before it agrees to further negotiations.

"Our plan was to hold working-level contacts a few more times next week, agree on an inspection regime by Dec. 15 and conduct the first inspection on each other by Dec. 20," Kong said.

Friday's session was the eleventh since the joint declaration of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, renouncing ownership and development capability of nuclear weapons, took effect early this year.

Talks until Seoul's decision last month to resume Team Spirit were stalled by Pyongyang's refusal to include military facilities among the inspection sites and to accept short-notice inspections.

Sources close to the talks said that the chances considerably dimmed with Friday's results that Seoul and Pyongyang will go ahead with next month's prime ministers' meeting.

"It strongly appears that North Korea is trying deliberately to hold off inter-Korean dialogue, and Team Spirit is the best excuse it can find," one of these sources said on condition of anonymity.

Seoul To Urge North To Ease Port Entry Rules

SK2811061392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0602 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea will propose to North Korea during their next high-level talks that they ease rules on port entry and exit of ships sailing between the two sides, sources at the Korea Maritime and Port Administration said Saturday.

Advance permission is required for ships arriving from or departing for the other side's ports, but the government wants it to be replaced by a report, the sources said.

Currently, permission is given to a ship by the district head of port administration after review at the regional port security council, which comprises officials from the customs office, police, Defense Security Command, and the Agency for National Security planning.

The system is likely to cause troubles when inter-Korean exchange of ships becomes brisker, the sources said.

The Security Council in each port grants a ship permission to enter or leave only after studying the activities of its crew and other issues concerning national security, but no ship has been denied a permit so far, the sources said.

The open port order law would be revised in a way cutting the red tape, the sources said.

Only foreign-flag ships have sailed between South and North Korea this year—11 from South to North and 74 from North to South.

SKNDF Reports Plans To Assassinate Candidates

SK2711152992 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] North Korea's schemes and agitation against the South are becoming all the more intense at a time when the ROK's political situation is gearing up for the presidential election.

North Korea's covert propaganda media against the South, according to the South Korea National Democratic Front [SKNDF] broadcast, claimed on 22 November that the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] was promoting plans to assassinate an opposition party presidential candidate. It also said it is firming up emergency plans, such as having NSP special agents assassinate an influential opposition party presidential candidate, who is likely to win the presidential election, three or four days before the election because Democratic Liberal Party presidential candidate Kim Yong-sam's chances of winning are bleak.

This North Korean broadcast also creates malicious propaganda by saying that the Defense Security Command is planning to assassinate one presidential candidate and use this as an excuse to declare martial law throughout the nation to keep power in the hands of the military.

Editorial Urges 'Restraint' by Candidates

SK2711012492 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Nov 92 p 6

[Editorial: "Presidential Race in Full Swing"]

[Text] The presidential campaign went into high gear with the completion of candidate registration at the Central Election Management Committee Wednesday. By the legal deadline, eight aspirants had filed their applications to make the upcoming election the most hotly contested one in the nation's presidential election history in decades.

Six of them represent either major political parties or minor splinter parties. Besides the three leading parties, the rest are late arrivals in the arena, organized in haste on the eve of the election period. The two others are independents.

There is nothing wrong with so many candidates vying for the highest office to do justice to the civil liberties, equality of opportunities and universal suffrage as provided for in the Constitution. The electoral scene is bound to be most lively even though the real combat is likely to be fought among the three chief players. The constituents are quite confused and a little overwhelmed by the gravity and subtlety of the choices they have to make.

The men on the street who gather to hear the candidates and their publicists appear self-composed and discriminating—a sure sign of greater maturity on the part of the voting public. Initial speech rallies have been markedly and encouragingly devoid of outbreaks of physical violence and like disturbances. This is a very healthy sign. profuse littering, however, was present as usual.

A flood of promises and high rhetoric no longer seems to impress the crowds. Yet, the contestants can hardly desist from the indulgence of lavishing promises, many of them of a pork-barrel nature.

Campaign promises are easier to make than to keep, as Bill Clinton and his advisers are already recognizing. The U.S. transition team already sees a need to adjust those promises even before the inauguration. This offers much food for thought for all of us here.

Many cite the rampancy of verbal violence—rumor-mongering, mudslinging and character assassination. Such a war of words is bound to escalate to becloud the electioneering climate and dilute the process of sober evaluation of policies and positive personality assets of the candidates. More than the candidates themselves, their supporting actors are prone to engage in unbridled defamation of the rivals. More restraint must be exercised.

Mobilization of jobless youths and even some college students at mass rallies is as bad and illegal as presenting popular performing artists. Party leaders and campaign organizers should join to stop these irregularities. It is also beneath the dignity of students to be mobilized in this manner. The donation of "pure" campaign funds, though small in value, collected by the inhabitants of a welfare community at Umsong, may serve as a powerful notice to all politicians that people want a clean and fair campaign, free from bribery and influence peddling. In the final analysis, honesty and order in the elections are the joint responsibility of the candidates and the voters.

Seoul Allegedly Obstructs Pak Tae-chun's Return

SK2711062892 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 27 Nov 92 p 1

[Text] It has been learned today that lawmaker Pak Tae-chun, former chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], who continues to stay overseas, is unable to return home because of the obstruction and pressure the government authorities are imposing on him. For some time there has been a consistent rumor that lawmaker Pak is considering joining the United People's Party [UPP].

A relative of Pak said today that Pak has recently moved from Japan to China and his activities are restricted by government agents' surveillance. Pak was expected to return home around 22 November, but he postponed his departure from China because circumstances were not conducive to his return.

One of Pak's relatives said: After conducting a special audit on the Pohang Iron and Steel Company, of which Pak is honorary chairman, government authorities are

urging Pak not to return home until the presidential elections are over, according to what I have been told. Government authorities are doing this because they are worried that the lawmaker's return may adversely affect the DLP's election campaign because Pak intends to join the UPP. This raises serious questions over the neutrality of the government in the election.

Declaring that he would not join the New Korea Party, Pak left the country on 5 November on a tour of Europe, Japan, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. It has been learned that while voicing his plan to return last weekend, Pak stated his belief that those who deserted the DLP ought to join the UPP.

DP announces 'Policy Alignment' With Dissidents

SK2611033892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 26 (YONHAP)—The Democratic Party (DP) has decided to form a "new policy alliance" with the National Congress, an umbrella organization of dissident groups, party spokesman Hong Sa-tok said Thursday.

Hong told reporters that the alliance will be formed since the party's 100-point election platform coincides with policy commitments of the National Congress. Hong said that the congress, which he said was rather moderate in nature, proposed to the party in October to coordinate policy differences for the election.

"The party told the congress that it couldn't accept the five policy recommendations on abolition of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), abrogation of the national security law, withdrawal of the U.S. forces, establishment of labor unions for government officials and guarantee of three labor rights, since they run counter to the party position," he said.

The congress accepted the party position and proposed to help the party for the election, Hong said.

"However, the party turned down the proposal because members of the congress are not entitled to do so under the current election law that permits only party members to conduct campaigns," Hong said, adding that the alliance is limited to a policy solidarity.

The National Congress is the biggest dissident group participated in by such major organizations including Chondaehyop (the National Alliance of College Student Representatives).

So far the two sides have negotiated with 60 policies, and agreed on 55 points including the immediate implementation of the local autonomy system, abrogation of laws on assembly and demonstration and on security surveillance, introduction of a public land owership and the real-name financial assets transaction system, Rep. Yim Chae-chong explained. Yim, a dissident leader, was elected to the National Assembly on a DP ticket this year.

A six-member DP team headed by Rep. Kim Won-ki, a supreme council member, held negotiations with the congress which was represented by three negotiators, including Ko Kwang-sok, cochairman.

Meanwhile, Kim Tae-chung, DP presidential candidate, explained that the alliance has been formed in an effort to induce dissidents into political establishments.

North Said To Welcome DP, Dissidents Alliance

SK2811142092 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] North Korea announced that it welcomes the decision by the Democratic Party [DP] and the National Alliance for Democracy and Unification to form a political merger on 26 November for the upcoming presidential election.

Through the covert propaganda media against the South, the South Korea National Democratic Front broadcast, North Korea welcomed this by saying on 27 November that the political merger between the DP and the National Alliance for Democracy and Unification has brought about a new wave in the election situation, and that this has given hope to the voters.

DP Spokesman Denounces North's Report

SK2811142292 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] The Democratic Party's [DP] vice spokesman Pak Chae-won said in a statement on 28 November that if the report by the NAEWOE News Agency that North Korea welcomed the political merger by the DP and the National Alliance for Democracy and Unification is true, then this is nothing but a hackneyed trick by North Korea to prevent the establishment of a true democratic government in South Korea because it is afraid that a true democratic government in South Korea will be established.

Burma

Troops Overrun Strategic Rebel Military Bases

BK2611033392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Nov 92 p 6

[Text] Most strategic military bases of the Karen National Union [KNU] located near the border from Mae Hong Son Province in the North down to Chumphon Province in the South have been overrun and occupied by Burmese forces, according to Karen officer Capt Saw Arthur.

The KNU, however, still holds its main headquarters in Manerplaw, opposite Mae Sariang District, and Wang Kha camp, opposite Mae Sot District of Tak Province.

Several Burmese battalions and divisions had tried on several occasions to seize the two camps but failed, said Saw Arthur.

The Manerplaw headquarters also houses more than 20 groups waging war against Rangoon including the Democratic Alliance of Burma, the National Democratic Front, the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma and the All Burma Students Democratic Front.

Capt Saw Arthur, however, said that in most operations KNU fighters waged guerrilla warfare against the Burmese. They do not try to defend most of their front-line positions when Burmese troops approach such areas.

One KNU stronghold, the 7th Brigade headquarters, opposite Tak Province, was overrun by the Burmese last week after six hours of fighting.

Nine Burmese troops and three women were found dead and 29 wounded in the area, Saw Arthur said.

Among the KNU camps occupied by Burmese forces were Kyaw Tha, opposite ae Lanoi Sub-district, Mae Hong Son Province, Mae Thawor Yegyaw, Mawpasu, Phalu and Wahley opposite Tak Province, the Three Pagodas Pass and E-tong in Kanchanaburi Province; Darn Singkhon Pass of Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, and a camp near Tha Sae District of Chumphon Province.

Dry-Season Offensive Against Khun Sa Begins

BK2811024592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Nov 92 p 6

[Text] Chiang Mai—Burmese troops opened a dry-season offensive against Shan rebel forces at Ban Na Pa Kao opposite Mae Ai district in Chiang Mai early yesterday.

An unknown number of Burmese soldiers attacked the Muang Tai Army rebel forces under the command of Lt-Col Sang Son.

The rebel camp is known to be under the control of drug kingpin Khun Sa.

The number of casualties is not known. At least 17 families of the rebels have crossed the border seeking refuge in Tambon Monpin in Fang district, which is very close to the rebel camp.

Reports suggest the Burmese Government has mobilised soldiers from Muang Pong Pa Khaem and Muang Kan to the area along the Thai-Burmese border between Mae Ai and Fang districts in what is described by one source as a move to open operations against the rebels.

The Third Army has issued an order to Thai Border Patrol Police to go to areas where there might be violations of Thai sovereignty by foreign troops.

The Army said it would not allow foreign troops to trespass on Thai territory and cause hardship to the Thai people along the border, as in the incident at Ban Nai Soy in Mae Hong Son province recently.

Thai Envoy Notes Resumption of Border Trade

BK2411131592 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 24 Nov 92

[Text] Trade between Thailand and Burma has increased, mutually benefitting both countries since Burma adopted an open-door policy in 1988. However, border trade has not run smoothly because of continued fighting between Burmese troops and ethnic minority groups along the border. Whenever the fighting escalates, Burma closes the border for a while. As a result, border smuggling has become rampant and has resulted in losses to both Thai and Burmese traders. Wirasak Futrakun, the Thai Ambassador in Rangoon, has this to say:

[Begin recording] Anyway, the situation is better now. Burma has reopened all border checkpoints—at Mae Sai, Mae Sot, and Ko Song. Goods from Thailand are now moving freely into Burma. I recently met the new Burmese trade minister. He said he was impressed with Thailand's progress and has already made three visits to Thailand. He suggested that there should be cooperation between Thailand and Burma by making use of Thailand's economic progress and technical expertise to exploit Burma's natural resources. He said such cooperation would benefit the peoples of both countries. This is the attitude of Burma, which is now shifting from a socialist to a market economy. [end recording]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Urges 'Serious Attention' for Defense

BK2611075192 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Military conflicts in countries like Cambodia and Yugoslavia and the collapse of the Soviet Empire clearly showed that defense must be made an important agenda in the country's military development.

Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said this today. He said no one can say for sure that there will be peace in Cambodia after the UN Transitional Authority has withdrawn from that country. In fact, he declared military build-up and development of the country's defense forces should be given serious attention.

Datuk Sri Najib was opening the annual meeting of Army Commanders in Kuala Lumpur. He said the 250 million ringgit allocated to the Defense Ministry in the 1993 national budget would enabled the Armed Forces to buy jet fighters to protect the country as well as conduct adequate military exercises.

Purchase of UK Air Defense Missiles Approved

BK2911075892 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Nov 92 p 3

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs.—The government has approved the purchase of Starburst air defense missiles from a British company, Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said here today.

Najib said discussions would be held with the UK-based Short Brothers Pte. Ltd. [Private Limited] soon to finalise the total cost and the number of missiles to be purchased.

"It is timely that we acquire these missiles as we need to protect our assets and men from any possible aerial attack," he told reporters after opening the army commanders meeting at the Armed Forces Defence College here.

The Starburst is a portable land-to-air missile system meant to defend ground installations, including naval and air bases from air attacks. The system would be operated by the army, he added.

Najib said the building-up of the military was complementary to the socioeconomic development of the country. [passage omitted]

Mahathir Returns From G-15 Summit in Senegal

BK3011060292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0352 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Nov 30 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said the Group of 15 (G-15) had a bright future considering the interest shown by many South countries to become members. Membership of the grouping need not be confined to 15 although [words indistinct].

"It will not be [words indistinct] G-15 to have more than 15 members, not unlike the G-77 which has more than 100 members and the G-7 which is expected to increase its membership in the future" he told reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport here Monday, on his return from Namibia, Tunisia and Dakar, Senegal, where he attended the third G-15 summit.

Dr. Mahathir said the G-15 agreed to admit Chile as its newest member during the Dakar summit.

On the absence of five heads of government at the summmit, he said that was normal as the selection of member countries during the early stages of its formation was done on a random basis.

As no assessment was done on the countries prior to formation of G-15, there were bound to be some member countries which had a stronger interest in the group compared with others, he added. He said, however, Argentina, which was not represented by its President Carlos Menem at the Dakar summit, had agreed to host the fifth summit in 1994. The fourth summit is to be hosted by India next year.

He also said Malaysia's suggestion to set up a centre of excellence in the South and to have seminars on economic planning and privatisation received encouraging support from G-15 member countries.

He was confident that South-South trade ties would improve with the setting up of the South Investment, Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre (SITTDEC) by Malaysia and the bilateral payments arrangement between central banks of G-15 countries.

Looking at his trip overall, the prime minister said Malaysia's chances to improve trade with the three countries he visited were good "if we work hard".

The three countries had also expressed a strong interest to have closer trade ties with Malaysia, particularly Tunisia, which was interested in the privatisation concept.

Commentary Views Visit to Tunisia

BK2811131892 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Station commentary]

[Summary from poor reception] It was a fruitful mission by the prime minister, Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, and his delegation of senior officials and business leaders on their visits to three African states for 10 days beginning on 16 November. After a successful visit to Namibia and a meaningful G-15 summit in Dakar, Senegal, they have just concluded a satisfactory final note in Tunisia.

In Tunis, Malaysia signed two important agreements with Tunisia—one on trade and the other on Bilateral Payment Arrangement or BPA. The trade agreement is meant to identify ways to further promote growth of trade between the two countries, while the BPA will provide a guarantee for the exporters of both countries that they will be paid through their respective central bank.

The two agreements will no doubt ensure that the economic and trade relations between Malaysia and Tunisia will become closer in the near future. There is

great potential for business opportunities in both countries, many of the areas are yet to be tapped.

Tunisia, with a population of 8.4 million, has a relatively diversified economy with agriculture, mining, energy, and manufacturing sectors contributing significantly to its economy. These are the areas in which Malaysia has wide experience and there are vast opportunities for the public and private sectors in both countries to share their experiences and technological know-how for their mutual benefit.

Tunisia also expressed its keenness in learning more about Malaysia's policy of privatization. In all of Dr. Mahathir's visit to developing countries, the emphasis has been on fostering greater South-South cooperations. This can be seen from Malaysia's efforts in initiating the funding the South Investment, Trade, and Technology Data Exchange Center or SITTDEC.

This has been described as a useful technical service through which valuable information can be made available on trade and business opportunities that exist in the South countries. The data base in Kuala Lumpur is not new to developing nations. Tunisia and its crucial economic development will be well advised to make use of this facility by its membership with SITTDEC. The move for developing countries to (?think South), adopted by the G-15 summit in Dakar, becomes all the more significant and necessary, especially in view of the current recession in the developed countries and the forthcoming European Single Market and the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Singapore

Turkish Prime Minister Arrives for Official Visit

BK2911142892 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in. English 1100 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Summary from poor reception] The prime minister of Turkey, Mr. Suleyman Demirel, has arrived for a three-day official visit. Mr. Demirel and his wife were greeted on arrival by the communications minister Mah Bow Tan, who was also the minister in attendance.

Mr. Demirel and his delegation are here to promote ties especially in trade and investment. Turkey is looking for foreign investors to set up joint ventures mainly in the newly-independent states of the former USSR and East Europe.

Discusses Reasons for Visit

TA2911180992 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Mevlut Akin report from Singapore]

[Text] In his visit to Singapore, Prime Minister Demirel is being accompanied by State Minister Cavit Caglar and an almost 150-person delegation composed of managers of public economic enterprises, businessmen, bankers, and journalists. Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, who attended the Economic Cooperation Organization meeting in Pakistan, and State Minister Omer Barutcu, who attended the joint Turkish-New Zealand economic committee meeting in Wellington, arrived in Singapore today for the official talks that are to be held tomorrow.

On the first day of his visit to Singapore, Prime Minister Demirel toured the city, the container port which forms the backbone of the country's economy, and the suburbs. He then talked with the journalists who are following his visit and discussed his impressions.

He pointed out that Singapore has managed to enable people of different religions and traditions to live together and that it has united Europe and Asia. He noted that as in Japan, the state organizes the system and the people deal with production and trade. They make a successful example, he said, adding that Turkey has a lot to learn from this example and that it also has certain proposals to make to Singapore. He said: There are things we can offer and there are things we can learn. Turkey must benefit from the market and capital opportunities here, from the power of enterprise. The importance of this visit lies in the fact that we will make both our hosts learn about us more, that we will be able to tell them to come and do business with us, and especially in Japan, we will be able to achieve certain binding results in connection with certain specific projects.

Replying to a question, Demirel said that the government is planning to reorganize the administration of Istanbul and to turn it into a commercial and financial center. Within this framework, he said, we are considering reorganizing Istanbul's administration as a megapolis.

The prime minister pointed out that there is a lack of free trade zones between Singapore and Britain and that Istanbul can fill this need.

Demirel concluded by saying that for Turkey to achieve economic success, it needs 10 years without hurting its regime.

A reception was given by the Turkey-Singapore Friendship Association for Demirel and his delegation this evening.

Demirel will begin his official contacts tomorrow. He will first be received by the president and then by the prime minister. Later, official talks will be held. Demirel will also meet with Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

Meets Counterpart, President

TA3011065792 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 0530 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Meral Celebioglu report from Singapore]

[Text] The second day of Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel's visit to Singapore began with a welcoming

ceremony at the Presidential Palace. At the palace, Demirel was received by Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. The national anthems of the two countries were played at the ceremony. Demirel later inspected the honor guard. He then was introduced to various Singapore government officials. Demirel was also received by Singapore president Wee Kim Wee. He then held a meeting Goh Chok Tong. After the meeting the delegations of the two countries headed by the prime ministers began the official talks. Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin and state ministers Cavit Caglar and Omer Barutcu are also attending the official talks.

Demirel is currently attending a luncheon given in his honor at the Singapore International Trade Center.

Concludes Contacts, Holds News Conference

TA3011115492 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1100 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Serdar [name indistinct] report from Singapore]

[Text] Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel, who was received by Singapore President Wee Kim Wee, later met with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. After this meeting, the Turkish and Singapore delegations, headed by their respective prime ministers, began the official talks. Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin and State Ministers Cavit Caglar and Omer Barutcu were also present at the talks.

Demirel attended a luncheon given in his honor by the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce. In a statement at the luncheon, Demirel said that Turkey, which has liberalized its economy, is trying to integrate into the world economy. He added that within this framework, Turkish firms are opening up to the outside world and are investing in Europe and North America. Demirel said that work is continuing to connect the natural gas reserves in Turkmenistan and the oil reserves in Kazakhstan to the Mediterranean through pipelines. He added that Turkey has good economic relations with Russia.

Noting that there are diverse investment opportunities within the framework of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Project [BSECP], Demirel called on foreign investors to establish partnerships with Turkish businessmen who have developed good relations in BSECP member countries. Noting that the economic and trade relations between Turkey and Singapore are speedily developing despite the fact that they still do not reflect their potential, Demirel said: This is the most suitable time for Singapore citizens to invest in Turkey.

Demirel later held a news conference and gave information on his contacts. He replied to questions by Singapore and Turkish journalists. He began his statement at the news conference by stressing that his visit is the first ever by a Turkish prime minister to Singapore. Demirel added: This visit has been very beneficial for all the members of our delegation, including our businessmen. Our businessmen have no doubt acquired a perspective that can better assess the potential Singapore represents for Turkey. Noting that his visit has been extremely successful, Demirel said that there are no political problems between the two countries and that they share similar views on many international problems. He added that at the meetings he explained the opportunities created by Turkey's current position in the world. Noting that both countries have the political will to further bilateral relations in all fields, Demirel said that Singapore officials were closely interested in the views he expressed on various issues.

Demirel said that he invited Singapore Prime Minister Goh and Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew to visit Turkey and that these invitations were accepted. This evening, Demirel will attend a dinner to be hosted in his honor by Goh, and he will leave Singapore for Japan tomorrow.

Cambodia

'Sources' Say Khmer Rouge To Form New Party

OW2811034992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0324 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Bangkok, Nov. 28 KYODO—The Cambodian rebel group Khmer Rouge will launch a new party possibly on Monday in preparation for the country's general elections in May, according to sources close to the group.

The sources insisted the new party will register for the May elections only after the pullout of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia is verified and the Supreme National Council, made up of all four rival Cambodian factions, is strengthened.

The Khmer Rouge has not formed a political party since 1981 when it disbanded its Communist Party.

Khmer Rouge Forms New Political Party

OW3011112892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov. 30 KYODO—Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan said Monday the faction will establish a political party called the National Unity of Cambodia Party (NUCP).

It is the first time the faction has set up a political party since 1981 when it disbanded the Communist Party of Kampuchea.

"The National Unity of Cambodia Party will participate in the elections only when the 23 October, 1991, Paris agreement is correctly and fully implemented, particularly when all categories of Vietnamese forces of aggression have withdrawn from Cambodia," he said in a statement.

The statement, issued through the Khmer Rouge office in Phnom Penh, did not say when the party will be officially inaugurated.

The party's aims will be the independence, sovereignty, unity, peace and neutrality of Cambodia, it said.

Khieu Samphan will serve as president of the founding committee of the new party which will have its headquarters in the western Cambodian town of Pailin in territory controlled by the Khmer Rouge.

Khmer Rouge Vice President Son Sen, who is also the faction's supreme military leader, will serve as vice president of the 10-man founding committee.

The remaining eight members of the committee have diplomatic or academic backgrounds, the statement said.

Yasushi Akashi, head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), said in a statement, "I welcome this new development" if the formation of the party represents a step toward full participation in implementing the Paris accord.

Akashi said that in return for participation in elections, the NUCP will have to accept the requirements of the 1991 Paris agreements and "the principle of reciprocity."

"That is, if the new party wishes to open offices and to campaign in zones controlled by other parties, it will have to open its own zones to those parties," Akashi said.

"It will have to open its zones fully to UNTAC," he added.

Akashi said UNTAC is investigating Khmer Rouge allegations of a lingering Vietnamese presence in Cambodia and will issue an interim report to a special meeting of the country's governing Supreme National Council on December 10.

The Khmer Rouge faction has so far refused to comply with a key clause of the Paris peace accord, one that requires all warring factions in Cambodia to disarm.

National Union Party Established

BK3011034992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Nov 92

["Recording of the statement by His Excellency Khieu Samphan at a ceremony held to arrange the establishment of the Cambodian National Union Party"; date and place not given]

[Text] Statement of the committee for setting up the Cambodian National Union Party [Keanapak Samakki Cheat Kampuchea]:

1. Since 1979, our nation and people have mobilized their united forces to launch a tense and arduous struggle, full of lofty heroism and with the support of the peace- and justice-loving countries and people across the world, until the Paris agreement was signed on 23 October 1991 with the aim of ending the Yuon's [derogatory term for Vietnamese] war of aggression through comprehensive political means so that Cambodia can regain its independence with territorial integrity.

At present, our nation and people are mobilizing their united forces to jointly struggle for a correct implementation of this 23 October 1991 Paris agreement and for the withdrawal of all categories of Yuon aggressor forces so that Cambodia can achieve independence and peace with territorial integrity and national reconciliation. In the future, our nation and people will still need this mobilization of the entire Cambodia's great national union so as to:

1) Defend an independent, sovereign, unified, peaceful, and neutral Cambodia with its territorial integrity;

2) Build a prosperous Cambodia in which Cambodian people from all walks of life will be able to enjoy a decent and self-sufficient livelihood, prosperity, and conveniences in all aspects.

2. In the face of the aforementioned situation and with the spirit of holding aloft the banner of great national union, our nation and people, after having held several rounds of consultation and discussion with people of all social stratas in the country, have decided to set up a committee in charge of establishing a political party, which is to be named the Cambodian National Union Party [CNUP]. The committee has also drafted a political policy for the party.

3. As emphasized in the political policy, the CNUP is a part of the Cambodian nation and people and its ideals and political goals are to achieve the entire Cambodian great national union. The CNUP will strive to do everything possible for these ideals and political goals and will not create antagonism, rifts, and squabbles just to seize the ballot and power.

4. The CNUP will take part in the elections only after every provision of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement has been implemented correctly, particularly only after all categories of Yuon aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia.

5. The CNUP expresses its sympathy with and support for all the political parties, mass organizations, and individuals who are pursuing a national policy and carrying out concrete activities which are beneficial to the nation and people as well as to Cambodia's great national union.

6. The composition of the committee for setting up the CNUP is as follows:

1. Khieu Samphan, chairman;
2. Son Sen, vice chairman;
3. Chan Youran, member;
4. Sar Kim-Imut, member;
5. Hing Un, member;
6. Pich Bunret, member;

7. In Sopheap, member;
8. Mak Ben, member;
9. (Kor Bun-heng), member;
10. Tep Khunnal, member.

7. The office of the committee for setting up the CNUP is located in Pailin.

Radio Profiles New Party Officials

BK3011060692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Nov 92

["Brief biography of the members of the committee for setting up the Cambodian National Union Party"—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. Khieu Samphan: Doctor of Economic Science, University of Paris; former minister; former deputy prime minister; former president of Democratic Kampuchea; head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]; and member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC].

2. Son Sen: Undergraduate of Sorbonne, Paris; former technical director of the National Pedagogic Institute, Phnom Penh; former deputy prime minister; deputy head of the PDK; and member of the SNC.

3. Chan Youran: Bachelor's degree in law; high diploma of law; diploma of high functionary from the Royal School of Administration, Phnom Penh; former director of the Secretariat of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state; former minister; former ambassador to African countries; former ambassador to the Middle East; and Cambodian ambassador to the PRC.

4. Sar Kim-Imut: Bachelor's degree in Economic Science; former professor at the Sisowath High School, Phnom Penh; former high-ranking functionary in the Cambodian Royal Railways Department; former high-ranking manager of the Inadana Jati Bank, Phnom Penh; former vice chairman of the Foreign Trade Bank, Phnom Penh; and former state secretary in charge of transport and supply.

5. Hing Un: Engineer in agriculture and rural engineering from (Gentbrugge) School, Belgium; former dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Phnom Penh, and director of the Ministry of Agriculture; former counsellor of the Cambodian Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York; and Cambodian ambassador to Senegal, Mauritania, Togo, Gambia, Gabon, Nigeria, Serra Leone, Guinea, Niger, and Cameroon.

6. Pech Bunret: Civil engineer graduated from the Ecole Superieure, Paris; former high-ranking official of the Ministry of Agriculture; former Cambodian ambassador to Mauritania, Guinea, and Albania; and Cambodia's permanent representative to the UN Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP.

7. In Sopheap: Engineer from the Ecole Centrale, Paris; former counsellor of the Cambodian Embassy to the PRC; Cambodia's ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of the Sudan.

8. Mak Ben: Doctor of Economics, University of Paris; diploma of the Contract Management Institute, Paris; diploma of the International Administration Institute, Paris; ambassador and member of the Secretariat of the SNC.

9. Kor Bun-heng: former counsellor-minister of the Cambodia Permanent Mission, New York; ambassador.

10. Tep Khunnal: Civil engineer, counsellor of the Cambodian Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York.

Khmer Rouge Praises UN Secretary General's View

BK2811015292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Nov 92

["Statement by the Party of Democratic Kampuchea Concerning the view of UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali who speficies to the UN Security Council that sanctions should not be imposed against Democratic Kampuchea because this is not a good solution; a good solution is patient diplomacy;" place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] United Nations Secretary General [UNSG] Butrus Butrus-Ghali recently stressed to the UN Security Council that sanctions should not be imposed against the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] because this is not a good solution; a good solution is patient diplomacy.

UNSG Butrus-Ghali's view is that of a veteran diplomat who has wisdom and abundant experience in international affairs, particularly in solving international conflicts. The Cambodian people would like to express profound thanks to the UNSG in the firm belief that with continued patient diplomacy, we will be able to overcome obstacles and achieve a comprehensive implementation of the Paris agreement in every aspect, namely:

1. To enable the Supreme National Council [SNC] to have the role of the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period; and

2. To achieve cooperation between UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and the SNC to 1) check that all Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia and prevent them from returning under any form; and 2) ensure the demobilization of 70 percent of all four Cambodian parties' troops.

Only acting this way in accordance with the agreement can a neutral political atmosphere and national reconciliation be established to enable the Cambodian people to exercise their right of self-determination through free, democratic, proper, and just elections.

The Cambodian nation and the PDK would like to again and again stress that they absolutely stand by every clause of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, particularly the above two key points.

Hun Sen Denies UN's Complaint of 'Intimidation'

OW2911083892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0818 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov. 29 KYODO—Prime Minister Hun Sen has voiced dissatisfaction with a recent complaint by the chief of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Cambodia about a barrage of incidents blocking political activities.

The premier of the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh Government made the remarks in a letter to Yasushi Akashi, chief of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), according to a copy of the letter obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Sunday.

Hun Sen said Akashi's November 19 statement calling for a neutral political environment in the war-torn country is intended to criticize his government. The letter said it was regrettable that his government was accused without evidence.

Noting his government is under the control of UNTAC, Hun Sen said the U.N. mission should take part of the responsibility for what Akashi says is the obstruction of political party activities.

Akashi said in the statement that political party workers preparing for a U.N.-supervised general election next may "have been subjected to intimidation, threats, and even physical violence by the authorities."

"It is obvious that a free and fair election cannot be held in circumstances where people face threats to their lives, liberty, and personal security for attempting to exercise their political rights," he said.

Akashi also reiterated UNTAC's full commitment to the creation and maintenance of a neutral political environment, which he said was a vital "condition for holding free and fair elections."

AFP Cited on UNSC Decision on Cutting Oil to KR

BK2611060892 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0417 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 26—Four of the five permanent members of the Security Council agreed Tuesday on a draft resolution calling for measures to cut oil supplies to the Khmer Rouge [KR] to press it to cooperate with a UN peace plan, Western diplomats were quoted by AFP as saying.

The draft, which does not explicitly describe the measures as sanctions, was sent to the capitals of Britain, France, Russia and the United States for study and will be submitted to the remaining 10 members of the Security Council Wednesday. A vote is not expected for several days.

China, which backed the Khmer Rouge during the Cambodian civil war, firmly opposes slapping sanctions on the radical Marxist faction or excluding it from legislative elections due in April or May of next year.

Diplomats said China might abstain from voting on the resolution.

The draft will include Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali's recommendation that presidential elections also be held in Cambodia. The UN chief has not proposed a date for such voting. France wants it to be held before the legislative elections.

The measures to cut oil supplies to the Khmer Rouge are in line with the terms of the agreement signed last October in Paris to end the Cambodian civil war. That accord calls for UN members to refrain from strengthening the military might of any of the Cambodian factions.

The Khmer Rouge, which ruled Cambodia for nearly four years until invading Vietnamese forces toppled the faction and installed a client government in January 1979, is refusing to disarm or allow UN peacekeepers into areas under its control as called for in the peace agreement.

The Khmer Rouge argues, among other things, that Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia disguised as civilians. Hanoi says all its soldiers were withdrawn in 1989.

Security Council members had been discussing sanctions designed to hinder the Khmer Rouge's lucrative gem trade along Cambodia's border with Thailand. But in the new draft the panel simply asks the Supreme National Council, which embodies Cambodian sovereignty until an elected government takes over, to study how the gem trade might be banned.

Thai Minister Vows 'Full Support' for Sihanouk

BK2611090392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Nov 92

[Text] Recently Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri sent a greetings message to His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, on the occasion of the prince's 70th birthday. The message reads in part as follows:

On your 70th birthday, I ask Your Highness the permission to express my warmest greetings and best wishes to you. May Your Highness enjoy the best of health, success, and happiness.

This year marks your 70th birthday. It is an excellent occasion as it coincides with the first anniversary of the signing of the Paris agreement to find a comprehensive political solution for Cambodia. The past year under your leadership has made an important contribution to the progress of national reconciliation in Cambodia. Therefore, I would like to hail and emphasize the significance of your role in helping to break the current deadlock in the peace process.

I take this opportunity to assure Your Highness of the Kingdom of Thailand's full support for all your endeavors to bring peace and prosperity to the Cambodian nation and people.

Please accept the reassurances of my high regards.

Crimes Against Buddhists, UNTAC Apathy Decried

BK2611090592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian ?330 GMT 25 Nov 92

[Text] In a letter dated 24 November, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party [BLDP] and member of the Supreme National Council, vehemently protested UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] chief Yasushi Akashi's irresponsible attitude towards cruel and barbarous crimes of puppet troops and policemen who have harassed and gunned down BLDP members.

The letter said in early November the Vietnamese aggressors' puppets bullied and gunned down H.E. Son Sann's party members in many areas.

As a matter of fact, at 2000 on 2 November five puppet soldiers in uniform and armed with AK-47 rifles broke into a house in Prey Veng Province, gunning down Mr. Ath Sidan, vice chairman of the BLDP Committee in the province, wounding his wife and killing his 67-year-old mother-in-law. Then on 3 November several groups of puppet policemen went to the provincial BLDP office and arrogantly threatened the party staff members working there.

On the evening of 6 November at Chakkrei Ting in Kampot Province, puppet soldiers shot at the residence of a BLDP party cadre, wounding one of his relatives. Two days earlier the chief of the Chakkrei Ting District and puppet policemen broke into the BLDP office there.

At 0530 on 7 November at Ta Yoeng village of Dong Khpuos Commune in Takeo Province, puppet policemen battered a BLDP member, who had just returned from a voter registration site, wounding him in the head. The victim logged a protest about the incident with UNTAC police, but the latter did not care in the least.

On the evening of 8 November puppet policemen in Koh Kong Province shot at two guards at the BLDP office there, seriously wounding one of them.

H.E. Son Sann notified UNTAC Chief Akashi that the Vietnamese aggressors' puppet troops and police are more seriously threatening the Cambodian people's security, and there is no neutral political atmosphere for holding elections. UNTAC's name is becoming increasingly sullied with each passing day.

The crimes cruelly and barbarously committed by the Vietnamese aggressors' regime against the Cambodian people have clearly demonstrated that UNTAC leaders have not implemented the Paris accord and controlled and verified the withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia. On the contrary, UNTAC has turned a blind eye to the flow into Cambodia of a growing number of Vietnamese settlers who are designed to succor the puppet regime and swallow up Cambodia.

ADB Approves Aid for Economic, Social Assistance

BK2711034792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Nov 92 p B2

[Text] The Asian Development Bank [ADB] approved a loan of around US$67.7 million to Cambodia yesterday for a special rehabilitation assistance project in the country.

It was approved to enable Cambodia to address damage and neglect caused by last year's severe floods, two decades of war and the 1991 termination of aid from the former countries of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance.

The loan is the bank's first to Cambodia since 1970 and the first by a multilateral development financing institution in more than two decades. Interest-free it is drawn from the banks Asian Development Fund and is repayable in 40 years—including a grace period of 10 years—and carries a service charge of 1 per cent per annum.

The project will assist Cambodia to restore essential economic and social infrastructure and forestall further deterioration of basic public services.

It should also help re-establish a sustainable degree of economic and social stability in the country, creating a basis for future reconstruction efforts.

The project was prepared in full consultation with the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC), the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and the international donor community, including the IMF.

It is considered an important component of the broader international cooperative effort to rehabilitate Cambodia's economy.

Cambodia recently completed payments of a previous loan to bring it up to date in its ADB account.

The project will focus on emergency repair and rehabilitation activities in four sectors of the Cambodian economy: transport, power, agriculture and education.

It has been prepared on the basis of a sector-type loan whereby identification and implementation of sub-projects will be phased for the duration.

In the transport sector there is scope for inclusion of sub-projects for the rehabilitation of roads and bridges, railways, ports and inland waterways—facilities which have been rendered unserviceable because of minimal maintenance or which have been damaged and need to be rebuilt.

The power sector project will concentrate on urgent requirements in Phnom Penh and help rehabilitate parts of existing generation and distribution facilities. It will also provide new and reliable generating units to replace those beyond repair.

In the agriculture sector the project will cover civil works, construction equipment and spare parts for the rehabilitation of damaged or dilapidated irrigation and flood control schemes.

It will also supply about 18,000 tonnes of fertilizer to increase agricultural production.

In the education sector, sub-projects to be covered include the rehabilitation of physical facilities in selected schools and training institutes and the provision of equipment, furniture, paper and textbooks.

As well as the loan, two technical assistance grants totalling US$7.4 million will also be provided to cover the projects managing, coordination and implementation costs.

They break down to US$4.2 million for provision of consultancy services needed to assist the project's implementation agency to carry out the transport and agriculture components.

While the second grant of $3.2 million will finance the services of two long-term executive level advisers to assist in the overall management and coordination of the power and education components.

Both technical assistance grants are expected to be financed from bilateral sources.

'Nearly 1,697,000 Hectares' of Rice Planted

BK2911083092 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] According to a report from the Agronomy Department, nearly 1,697,000 hectares of assorted rice nationwide—or more than 83 percent of the plan—have been cultivated this rainy season. Compared to last year, this represents a decrease of about 4,200 hectares. The shortfall is due to floods, hindrances, and prolonged droughts.

A number of provinces such as Banteay Meanchey, Svay Rieng, Kompong Cham, Takeo, Koh Kong, and Kampot, have achieved between 80 and 90 percent of the plan.

Khmer Rouge Trade on Thai Border Viewed

BK3011125992 Hong Kong AFP in English 1154 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 30 (AFP)—Film recently shot from the air over Cambodia's western border and seen here Monday appears to prove the extensive trade in precious stones and timber between the Khmer Rouge and Thailand.

The video, which was filmed from the air and has been making its rounds among the foreign community in the capital, shows that dozens of hectares (acres) of land in Khmer Rouge control zones have been ravaged by the lucrative trade.

The radical faction's control zones are off limits to U.N. officials.

Some 100,000 Thais are employed in the region, which is one of Cambodia's richest, and where most non-Khmers fear to travel. Activities in the area have doubled in the last few months, according to Western sources.

The video, taken from a helicopter and seen by a group of journalists, shows modern mining equipment being used, developed roadways and evidence of the clear cutting of timber.

"Five or six years ago, it was virgin forest and in the last two years it has become large-scale exploitation," said one Cambodia expert, adding that truckloads of earth were being taken out of the country for processing in neighbouring Thailand.

The Sangker River valley has been particularly ravaged by the mineral and timber trade, according to the video.

The trade in precious stones—rubies and sapphires—and timber with Thailand is the principal source of income for the Khmer Rouge, though to be worth some 300 million dollars annually.

Laos

State Holds Memorial Service for Kaysone

BK2811074592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] As reported in a live broadcast, the National-level Funeral Committee held a state memorial ceremony, beginning at 1100 today at the main hall of the National Assembly in Vientiane capital, to mourn the demise of President Kaysone Phomvihan, our most beloved leader who passed away at 1123 on 21 November. The ceremony was attended by members of the Political Bureau, advisers to the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee, ministers, deputy ministers, members of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], and representatives of various ministries, departments or units, Vientiane Province and Municipality, and a large crowd of people of all strata. Also attending the memorial service of President Kaysone Phomvihan were representatives of friendly countries.

The foreign guests included His Royal Highness Prince Maha Wachiralongkon, as representative of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet and Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, and Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirithon of the Kingdom of Thailand; an 11-member high-level party and state delegation of the SRV led by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee; a 12-member high-level party and state delegation of Cambodia led by Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State; a two-member high-level party and state delegation of the PRC led by Zou Jiahua, Political Bureau member of the CPC Central Committee and vice premier; an eight-member high-level party and state delegation of the DPRK led by Yi Chong-ok, Political Bureau member of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and vice president; an eight-member government delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand led by Prasong Sunsiri, minister of foreign affairs; a delegation of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Thailand led by Sipanon Sutthiworasan, deputy chairman of the House's Foreign Affairs Commission; a government delegation of Malaysia led by Datuk Abu Hasan bin Haji Omar, domestic trade minister and acting minister of foreign affairs; a government delegation of Japan led by Taro Nakayama, former minister of foreign affairs; a government delegation of Indonesia led by Sudomo, minister for political and security liaison, representing President Suharto; and a government delegation of Myanmar [Burma] led by U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs.

The memorial service for deceased President Kaysone Phomvihan continued amid an atmosphere of profound grief and sorrow. It began with the playing of the National Anthem by the Lao People's Army band. Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the National-level Funeral Committee, then delivered an eulogy.

Nouhak Delivers Eulogy

BK2811121992 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0358 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Eulogy by Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the National-level Funeral Committee and newly elected president of Lao People's Democratic Republic, delivered at state memorial service for deceased President Kaysone Phomvihan held at main hall of National Assembly in Vientiane on 28 November—live]

[Text] Multiethnic compatriots, cadres, and combatants nationwide; distinguished domestic and foreign guests:

At 1123 on 21 November, the heart of Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan stopped beating. Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan passed away after devoting his life for half a century to the independence of the nation and the freedom and welfare of the multiethnic Lao people. His demise is a very great loss to our entire party, Army, and people. With deep affection and gratitude, our Lao people, who are most grieved and sorrowful, will engrave the incomparable and meritorious deeds of the comrade president into our memories forever.

Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan was born and grew up in a progressive family at a time when the country was a colony and the people were suffering. Though he was still young, he recognized this and joined a number of his associates who had a patriotic spirit to seek ways and means to liberate the country. With the introduction of Marxism-Leninism to the national liberation movements of the three Indochinese countries by President Ho Chi Minh, Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan found the correct way to liberate the country. He creatively encouraged and rallied the multiethnic people from all strata to unity and concord and to carry out the struggle. He coordinated the struggle in the various fields and promoted and expanded the national strength intensively. He also gained wide international support, and with his persistent and unyielding spirit in the struggle, he systematically gained victories and advanced to achieve complete victory. He joined senior revolutionaries of our party in setting up the Free Lao Front—the predecessor of the Lao Patriotic Front in the past and the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] at present. He founded the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]—a genuine patriotic and revolutionary party of our multiethnic Lao people. He built and directly led the Lao People's Army [LPA] and established the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a state which genuinely represents the interests of the multiethnic people, thus opening a new era of national construction for Laos and its people and an era for building Laos into a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified, and prosperous country.

Throughout his life of hard and prolonged struggle, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan was a combination of genuine patriotism and pure internationalism. At the same time, he contributed greatly to the cause of peace

and social progress and in establishing and promoting friendship and cooperation between our country and our neighbors and other countries throughout the world.

As general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee since the founding of the party, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan always paid close attention to the party's unique solidarity and to the building of a firm and all-round strong party. Under all circumstances of the hard and difficult struggle, he maintained and followed stable and firm strategies. He was always quick to the mark, had creative ideas, and accepted and made use of man's intelligence. He also wisely applied science and the experience of various countries to the party's line, plans, and policies in conformity with the practical conditions and specific areas of our country in each period. Together with other comrade members of the Party Central Committee, and with a spirit of perseverance, he led our entire party and people to overcome various obstacles by firmly combining the political and the armed struggle, the struggle for national reconciliation and a coalition. He promoted and expanded the overall strength of the nation intensely and gained international sympathy and support for the liberation of the country as well as for the defense and building of the new system, thus writing the most glorious chapter of history in the evolution of our nation.

Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan's life and revolutionary activities are closely related to the building and consolidation of the people's Armed Forces. His close guidance in the training and the building of the various types of armed forces has produced a high-quality military, profoundly loyal to the nation and people and able to liberate the country and defend the revolutionary fruits and peaceful life of the people.

In the many decades of his leadership, no matter his rank or position, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan always adhered to the idea of the importance of people, regarding them as the core, and intensely promoted and expanded their role as masters. He always considered people as the base and firmly trusted the people's strength. He paid constant attention to the task of turning to the grass roots and in building strong grass roots in all respects with a view to achieving the harmonious solidarity among the multiethnic people and bringing about peace and happiness to the people. Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan regarded as significant the education and training of youths and the building of young cadres for the continued pursuance of the cause of the party and state. He principly guided and led the implementation of the comprehensive restructuring cause to improve the party leadership and the state management, thereby raising the country's socioeconomic development to another level. He led our nation to advance on the path of continually building and expanding the popular democratic system so as to achieve the goal that our party and people have chosen.

With a pure spirit of internationalism and with his wholehearted contribution to peace, friendship, and cooperation among various nations, Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan gained the respect and friendship of brothers and friends near and far and throughout the world. He contributed worthily to raising the role and prestige of the LPDR internationally. He serves as a bright and excellent example for cadres, party members, combatants, and multiethnic people nationwide as one who made unlimited sacrifices and sincerely devoted his life for the nation and people and the future of the next generation. He was a good son, an outstanding patriot, and a beloved leader of the multiethnic Lao people. Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan deserves being hero of the Lao nation and the intimate friend of various nations.

Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan has left us forever. But his meritorious deeds, great achievements and devotion will be forever engraved in the history of the Lao nation. His name will remain in the hearts and memories of the Lao people forever. Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, in this moment of deep grief and sorrow, our entire party, Army, and people hereby pledge to you, comrade, the following:

1. To continue with the comrade's tasks and to remember the comrade's teachings; to strive to learn your pure and bright virtues and ethics; to be determined to overcome all difficulties to defend the revolutionary gains; to lead the country to the goal that our party and people have chosen; to effectively build a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified, and prosperous Laos; and to bring about welfare to the multiethnic people in accordance with your aspirations.

2. To continue to improve and construct our party in all aspects on the basis of maintaining its organizational principle; to continue to train cadres and party members to maintain and uphold virtue, ethics, and abilities; to establish organic ties between the party and the people; to pay regular attention to maintaining and strengthening the party's unique solidarity as in defending the apple of our eye.

3. To strive to enhance the harmonious solidarity and affection of the fraternal Lao people of all tribes and all strata, both at home and abroad, around the party and state, and together to translate into reality the task of defending and building the country.

4. To promote and expand the fine traditions of the nation; closely combine national and international strength in order to build and develop the country to be wealthy and strong; to enhance the special solidarity and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam; to promote and expand the traditional friendship among Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia; and to do our best to contribute to establishing and promoting friendship, peace, and good cooperation with neighboring countries as well as other countries in the world.

Compatriots, Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan is gone forever. He has left us with our (?entire party, Army, and people), namely the correct path of advance

for our nation, the noble and glorious LPRP, the LPDR which genuinely represents the interests of the people and which has gained support from the multiethnic people, the traditional solidarity and harmony among the people of various tribes, the national defense and public security forces which are absolutely loyal to the country and the people, the rich experiences scored in the comprehensive, principled restructuring cause, and the genuine patriotic spirit in combination with the pure spirit of internationalism.

Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan, our entire party and people pledge to memorize your grander, meritorious deeds forever. We are determined to turn our grief and sorrow into strength and concrete action and will continue to follow your path and lead the party and your cause to victory. We are firmly convinced that with the resolute determination of the entire party, Army, and people, the defense and building our most beloved fatherland will continue to advance and succeed.

Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan's cause remains with us forever. Comrade, we would your soul to paradise and reach the state of bliss.

I invite all distinguished guests here to stand and observe a minute of silence as a sign of our sorrow.

Remains Cremated 28 Nov

BK2911062092 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Text] After the end of the official memorial service for late President Kaysone Phomvihan at the National Assembly Hall, at 1330 [on 28 November] the coffin bearing the remains of the late president was carried to the bier constructed in front of the National Assembly. The ceremony was held amidst a mournful atmosphere in the presence of hundreds of thousands of grief-stricken Vientiane residents and representatives of the entire multiethnic people who attended the ceremony to pay their last respects to President Kaysone Phomvihan.

At 1415, the religious rites began with 80 Buddhist monks chanting the funeral ritual wishing the soul of the late president a peaceful final rest. After that, a mock funeral was held beginning with the laying of josticks, candles, and dry flowers by Buddhist monks, white-robed clergy, members of the bereaved family of the late president, relatives, and close friends. These people were followed by party and state leaders, foreign delegates, members of the Supreme People's Assembly, members of the diplomatic corps and international organizations in Laos, representatives of ministries and departments as well as the national defense and public security maintenance forces, representatives of the Vientiane administrative committee and of all provinces throughout the country, and Vientiane residents under an atmosphere of incomparable sorrow.

The actual cremation was held at 2000 on the same evening.

Foreign Delegations Received by Leaders, Depart

BK2911070292 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Following the funeral of Kaysone Phomvihan, the late chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC] and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], on the afternoon of 28 November at the Reception Hall of the National Assembly, our party and state leaders received the high-level delegations of the parties, representatives of the heads of state, and representatives of the governments from brotherly and friendly countries.

Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the LPRP CC Political Bureau and president of the LPDR; Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the LPRP CC and prime minister; Phoun Sipaseut, member of the LPRP CC Political Bureau, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the LPDR; and other leaders and important persons received together the heads of the delegations from the friendly countries, including Do Muoi, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party; His Royal Highness [HRH] Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon, representing His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet the King of Thailand, together with Her Royal Highness [HRH] Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon; Zou Jiahua, member of the CCP Central Committee Politburo and PRC vice premier; Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee and vice president of the DPRK; Prasong Sunsiri, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and head of the Thai government delegation; and heads of delegations of the heads of state and governments of Malaysia, Japan, Sweden, Myanmar, Australia, Indonesia, the Russian Federation, Mongolia, India, and other countries.

During the reception, President Nouhak Phoumsavan, speaking on behalf of the national-level committee for the funeral of Kaysone Phomvihan and of the Lao government and people, expressed profound thanks and gratitude to the delegations from the friendly and brotherly countries for giving the honor of attending the funeral rites for the late President Kaysone Phomvihan and for sharing the grief and incomparable pains of the Lao government and multiethnic people who have lost their beloved leader. Nouhak Phoumsavan took the opportunity to wish that the friendly relations and cooperation between Laos and the said friendly countries be further developed and strengthened.

On the evening of the same day, the high-level Vietnamese party-state delegation led by General Secretary Do Muoi; HRH Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon and HRH Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon; the high-level PRC party-state delegation led by Zou Jiahua; and the delegation of the government of the Kingdom of

Thailand left Vientiane for home after attending the funeral of the late President Kaysone Phomvihan.

Malaysian Delegation Calls on Khamtai, Departs

BK3011014692 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] On the morning of 29 November in Vientiane capital, Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a courtesy call from the Malaysian delegation headed by Datuk Abu Hassan bin Haji Omar, minister of domestic trade and acting foreign minister of Malaysia.

During the meeting, the prime minister and the guest expressed their fondest memory of the late President Kaysone Phomvihan who has gone forever. The two sides also exchanged views on mutual relations and cooperation between Laos and Malaysia in the recent years and in the present. They agreed that these relations and cooperation should be further developed and strengthened.

Datuk Abu Hassan bin Haji Omar arrived in the LPDR on 27 November to lay a wreath at and attend the funeral of President Kaysone Phomvihan. After paying the courtesy call on the prime minister, at noon on the same day, the Malaysian delegation left for home.

Philippines

NICA Warns of Possible War Over Spratlys

HK2811065292 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] The National Intelligence Coordinating Agency [NICA] has warned that war may break out in the Spratly Islands. The NICA said that tension on the islands is increasing as claimant-countries increase their troops and step up the construction of defense facilities in the area. However, the NICA believes that war may averted if attention is focused on more primary concerns, such as the exploration of the areas' oil reserves and the protection of the sea lanes around the Spratlys. This NICA report was one of the many reports submitted to the National Security Council during its recent meeting.

Rebels Said To Demand Armed Forces Chief's Ouster

HK2611035392 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 26 Nov 92 p 7

[Text] A new twist in the scheduled peace talks with renegade soldiers emerged yesterday as a ranking military rebel disclosed they would demand the ouster of Gen. Lisandro Abadia, the Armed Forces Chief, for alleged "insincerity and acts inimical to the peace talks."

A rebel officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he met with the executive committee of the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa [Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance]-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union (RAM-SFP-YOU).

The group is expected to present their demand for Abadia's ouster in today's scheduled meeting with the National Unification Commission (NUC).

In Malacanang, Abadia said he was willing to resign from his post if President Ramos so decides. He added that he was leaving his fate in the hands of the chief executive.

"I am a professional soldier. Whatever the President decides, that's it," he told reporters after meeting with the President in the Palace.

Former Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abenina, who is out temporarily on a five-day pass, was designated as head of the three-man RAM negotiating panel along with two others, one from the underground and another, a lawyer.

The source cited Abadia's failure to keep his earlier promise to resign if elusive renegade Col. Gringo Honasan would not surrender by Nov. 23, 1991, the deadline set by the Armed Forces before it would resume operations against the military rebels.

Following that pronouncement, the source said, Abadia reportedly said he was "merely joking" when he said he would resign if Honasan indeed failed to give up.

"He (Abadia) has no word of honor. Abadia is only to Abadia... he's only after his personal aggrandizement," the source said.

Abadia was quoted over the radio as saying he had yet to receive the RAM position. "I am a professional soldier and I will obey an order from the president."

Abadia's spokesman, Col. Ruto de Veyra, told THE CHRONICLE: "That position is rather ridiculous and it will expose the RAM as a personality-conscious entity. Instead of working on principles, they chose to work on personalities."

The rebel officer claimed that Abadia was also causing the delay in the release of detained RAM officers already ordered released by President Ramos.

Earlier, Abenina accused Abadia of delaying the release of the seven detained rebel officers granted special passes last Tuesday by the NUC.

But Abadia immediately called on Abenina to stop "squawking" since he had yet to receive from the NUC copies of the five-day liberty passes granted to the seven soldiers.

Abenina was one of the seven temporarily freed to conduct talks with their comrades. The others were former Col. Alexander Noble, former Lt. Cols Jake

Malajacan, Victor Erfe, and Melchor Acosta, former Maj. Abraham Purugganan, and former Capt. Proceso Maligalig.

Deny Demanding Ouster

HK2611131892 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 26 Nov 92

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Several rebel soldiers today denied that they are formally petitioning for the ouster of General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff. Former Captain Danny Lim of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement-Young Officers' Union [RAM-YOU], who was earlier released by the government, said the clamor for Abadia's ouster was the personal feeling of some individual members and not the group's official stand. It was reported yesterday that in the eyes of the RAM-YOU, General Abadia is an obstacle to the peace process in the country.

Ramos 'Determined' To End Mindanao Conflict

HK2611102092 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos has said he is determined to finally end the armed struggle in Lanao del Sur and Marawi City. In his three-hour meeting with local officials and council of elders in Lanao, Ramos stressed that he wants to halt conflicts in Lanao and end the century without seeing any soldiers scattered in the province. Ramos added he would just like to see people working peacefully through fishing and farming, and leading untroubled lives, as in developed countries in Asia.

Ramos sought the help of the council of elders and local officials of Marawi City to end armed conflict there and give way to progress in the province.

In response to requests that illegal logging be stopped in Lanao Lake an(l based on the recommendation of Rafael Alunan, Interior and Local Government secretary, Ramos has ordered Philippine National Police [PNP] Chief Raul Imperial to investigate reports of illegal logging and to file cases against small and big illegal loggers if necessary. Ramos also ordered Imperial to form a task force to monitor illegal logging activities, to be led by the most senior PNP provincial official and joined by representatives from the Departments of Justice, National Defense, and Environment and Natural Resources. Ramos also requested the help of nongovernment organizations and people's organizations in the campaign against illegal logging in Lake Lanao.

In the meeting, Princess Tarhata Lucman was designated one of the Muslim representatives in National Unification Commission's council of advisers.

Speaks in Mindanao on Development

HK3011023792 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] President Fidel Ramos today approved in principle the establishment of a Mindanao Power Corporation [MPC]. Initial financing for the project will come from the P193 million [Philippine pesos] which the National Power Corporation [NPC] overcharged its Mindanao customers. He said using the P193 million overcharge to cover the proposed MPC's initial organizational and operational costs would give the NPC's overcharged consumers equity shares [preceding two words in English] in the proposed power project.

The president made this announcement during his speech before the delegates to the Mindanao Export Congress, held at the Central Bank Convention Building in Davao City. He also announced that he would soon be signing the bill creating the Department of Energy, which would answer the country's energy crisis. He has urged Mindanao businessmen to help solve the country's power crisis by investing in the government's build-to-operate power projects.

At the same time, the president has ordered the Department of Public Works and Highways to speed up the expansion of the Davao City International Airport [DCIA]. Plans for the expansion are scheduled to be finished next year and the entire project is expected to cost around P2 billion, to be allotted within a span of three years. Funding for the expansion, according to the president, will be taken from the 19th OECF [Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund] loan, which the government expects to receive in the last part of 1993. Ramos said expansion work on the DCIA will begin immediately as soon as its [architectural] plans are finished.

On Mindanao, the president said he is optimistic that the island will be the next ASEAN export center in view of plans for the construction of industrial sectors within the region, much like those already being constructed in the island of Luzon.

Ramos has also urged the Department of Trade and Industry to plan for the construction of an industrial growth center in Davao City, making the city more attractive to foreign investors and hence ensuring the development of Mindanao. He also promised continued government support for the development of the region, reiterating that the government will not take any step that will derail Mindanao's role in national progress.

Ramos promised exporters that the government is trying its best to stabilize the peso-U.S. dollar exchange rate. He assured them that the continued appreciation of the peso is temporary and said that he is optimistic that the exchange rate will stabilize in the near future. However, in the meantime, the government will continue with its two-pronged approach in developing the country's economy, which includes getting more foreign investors for the Philippines.

Finally, the president reiterated the Philippines' commitment to the ASEAN free trade area and emphasized the role of the Mindanao exporters in this endeavor.

Ordonez Appointed New Human Rights Commissioner

HK3011010692 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Text] Former ambassador to the United Nations Siegfried Ordonez has been appointed as the new human rights commissioner, replacing Mary Concepcion Bautista who passed away several months ago.

Ordonez, a former Justice secretary and staunch human rights lawyer since the Marcos regime, said he will strive to solve all cases that will be filed in his office and will make necessary studies and recommendations to help solve human rights abuse issues in the Philippines.

Thailand

Premier, UNTAC Head Discuss Khmer Rouge Sanctions

BK2711161392 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, foreign minister, reported to journalists on the meeting between the prime minister and Mr. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], at Government House today. He said Mr. Akashi reported to Thailand on operations carried out under the UN resolutions and some obstacles encountered. Prasong said he assured Mr. Akashi of Thailand's readiness to cooperate with UNTAC in order to achieve peace in Cambodia but asked that the country not be dragged into any conflict in Cambodia. Thailand has no mission in Cambodia similar to that of UNTAC but offers full cooperation with the United Nations on its mission.

Concerning a request not to supply oil to Cambodia, the foreign minister said:

[Begin recording] [Prasong] We informed him about certain concerns we have, for instance, about a resolution to ban the shipment of oil or oil products into Khmer Rouge-controlled areas. I raised this during talks with him. I pointed out that this is a military measure and should not be taken as an economic measure. I told him that it is not only soldiers that depend on oil products, but also the people in general. The ban would create difficulties for the people and result in the Khmer Rouge taking a tougher stance in retaliation. It will be the people who will suffer and they will rise to help the Khmer Rouge. I pointed this out to Mr. Akashi. I asked him to take this into consideration before formalizing it in a resolution. In short, I told Akashi that there will have to be more discussions about what we can do to cooperate. I told him that Thailand should not be dragged into any conflict in Cambodia.

[Unidentified reporter] How much longer will the UN secretary general remain flexible about our wish to bring cut logs into Thailand ahead of the deadline?

[Prasong] The matter will have to be reported to the UN secretary general and it will be raised during the meeting of the UN Security Council. They will certainly take our opinions into consideration. I asked Mr. Akashi about his contact with the United Nations and he answered that he remains in touch with New York at all times. I also requested more time for our businessmen and traders to handle their contracts in Cambodia. Logs were already cut before the sanctions deadline was announced. We asked for enough time to transport all the logs into Thailand. That was what I asked him and I am waiting for the answer. [end recording]

Premier Details Discussion

BK2711151992 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Today at 1100, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai received at Government House Mr. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]. The prime minister reported to journalists after the meeting that Mr. Yasushi discussed with him UNTAC's work in Cambodia. Thailand has cooperated with the UN peace mission, such as by sending army engineers for road construction and mine clearing to prepare for the arrival of international forces. Concerning talks or consultations with Thailand, the prime minister said he leaves this to the foreign minister who is charged with acting on behalf of Thailand. He believes that in order to achieve peace in Cambodia, a diplomatic channel should be opened and the Khmer Rouge should take part in the peace settlement as effective means of ending the fighting and ceasing repercussions on the Thai people who live along the border.

The prime minister said Mr. Akashi did not press Thailand about closing the border in compliance with the UN resolution concerning sanctions on the Khmer Rouge but only reported to the prime minister about steps taken toward achieving the peace settlement. The prime minister said Mr. Akashi understands the political approach of each country and Thailand's responsibilities. He understands that great patience is needed in order to achieve what the various resolutions and agreements require concerning peace in Cambodia now that patient efforts have been made for 13 years now. He said that it is natural to expect obstacles in any kind of work.

Asked about his deliberations in regard to closing the border, the prime minister said Thailand must think very carefully about this. He said Thailand must try to minimize the impact on Thai businessmen who deal with Cambodians because the businessmen do not know what to expect in the future.

Prasong Sees 'No Change' in Lao Policies

BK2811075392 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Nouhak Phoumsavan has replaced the late Kaysone Phomvihan as new Lao president. On this development, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said he believes the new Lao leader will continue to implement the foreign policy of the former leader because it is the desire of Laos to proceed with national economic and social development.

[Begin Prasong recording] Both Nouhak and Khamtai worked closely with Kaysone from the beginning. The appointment of Nouhak as president and Khamtai as party chairman and prime minister concurrently is an act of achieving balance. That is, no single individual holds all the positions. I think every group in Laos, including the members of the Lao political bureau, is satisfied with this development. Regarding future Lao policies, Nouhak has gone on television and the Lao paper to say that he would continue with Kaysone's foreign policy and uphold committments Laos made with the international community. This confirms that it is unlikely that there will be any change, and my assessment of the situation is that there will be no change. This is because Laos is seeking to carry out national and social development, and I think it will concentrate on those aspects. [end recording]

Army-Police Tension Rising Over Recent Attacks

BK2811020592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Nov 92 pp 1,3

[Text] The attacks by soldiers on police stations in Ranong and Nakhon Ratchasima threaten to jeopardise relations between the Army and the police.

Deputy Police Department chief Phong-amat Amattayakun has complained of "deliberate delays" in the handover of suspects. He has accused an Army officer of lying.

Army top brass, including Army chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit, have said repeatedly they will allow the law to take its course and no attempt will be made to protect wrongdoers.

Pol Gen [Police General] Phong-amatt told reporters that investigators have made repeated requests to the local Army unit in Ranong to hand suspects over to the police for questioning.

But the unit commander kept asking for the handover to be postponed, without giving a reason, he said.

"We have still not received a clear explanation for the delay in the handover of Lt Wirun," Pol Gen Phong-amatt told reporters.

Lt Wirun Bunnak allegedly ordered some 50 newly-conscripted soldiers to storm Ranong's Muang District police station after police refused to accept his complaint about a lost gold necklace. Altogether, 15 policemen were injured—six seriously.

Pol Gen Phong-amatt said Police Department chief Sawat Amonwiwat had assigned Assistant Police chief Lt-Gen Pracha Phromnok to follow up on the case.

He would also personally coordinate with Fourth Army Commander Lt-Gen Kitti Ratthanachaya to ensure that the soldiers involved in the attack are handed over to the police to be charged, Pol Gen Phong-amatt said.

Investigators have slapped nine separate criminal charges, including attempted murder and using government personnel and property against law enforcement officers, on Lt Wirun and his men.

Pol Gen Phong-amatt said investigators have questioned seven eyewitnesses and 12 policemen. The police are confident they have enough evidence to prosecute.

The Deputy Police Department chief charged that an Army lieutenant-colonel attached to the Nakhon Ratchasima-based Second Development Battalion lied and said local police had searched his house without a search warrant.

Local police allege that the Army officer, Lt-Col Panithan Choen-akson, intimidated police officers on duty at Muang Police station after investigators tried to search his house. A dressmaker complained that the officer's wife had stolen her purse left in her shop.

The local police said Lt-Col Panithan, accompanied by several soldiers, stormed into the police station and videotaped police officers who had travelled to his house with a search warrant.

The officer denied the charge yesterday.

He said the troops went to the station to give him moral support and that in fact not many went there.

Lt-Col Panithan, who commands the 2nd Development Battalion based at Surathampitak barracks, told reporters at the Army auditorium that he was ready to prove his innocence.

Lt-Col Panithan, who met Army Chief Wimon Wongwanit in Bangkok to explain the incident, told reporters the police officers who went to his house were not in uniform, carried no arrest warrant and did not show their police cards before searching the house. The car the policemen travelled in had no licence plates.

He ordered one of his subordinates to follow him into the police station to take photographs of the policemen to show that they were not in uniform, Lt-Col Panithan said. Others followed him on their own without his knowledge, he said.

Pol Gen Phong-amatt dismissed Lt-Col Panithan's claim as untrue and accused him of trying to put the blame on police officers to cover himself.

He said policemen sent to Lt-Col Panithan's house had a search warrant but returned to the police station without conducting the search because the officer's wife, Wanna, had refused the officers entry to the house.

Lt-Col Panithan and some other soldiers went to the police station and demanded to see Pol Capt [Police Captain] Prasong because they understood that the police officers had searched his house without a warrant.

First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Chettha Thanacharo yesterday said he believed Lt-Col Panithan had gone to the police station to clear up the misunderstanding with the police, without any other intention.

Lt-Gen Chettha said that there was no need to change all the military regulations pertaining to soldiers' discipline.

Discipline can break down because there are both good and bad men in the services, he said.

On whether law-breaking troops should be tried by civilian or military courts, Lt-Gen Chettha said either court would be equally fair and just.

But he said it would depend on the Government whether it wanted troops to be tried by a civilian court like civilians and non-military officials.

Meanwhile, the dressmaker, Phongruthai Misuk, yesterday sought protection from Nakhon Ratchasima police chief Col [Colonel] Thaloengsak Sukhontaman.

Chawalit: Action Needed in Army Attack on Police

BK2911023892 Bangkok SUNDAY POST in English 29 Nov 92 p 1

[Text] Swift legal action should be taken against soldiers involved in the attack on Muang District police station in Ranong Province, Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut said yesterday.

He said quick action is necessary to reassure people that they need not live in fear.

A senior Police Department official complained on Friday of "deliberate delays" in the handing over of Lt Wirun Bunnak and his platoon members to police.

Gen Chawalit said he did not think that Lt Wirun's commander was deliberately delaying their handover.

"They may have certain problems. We will try to wait," he said.

Nor does Gen Chawalit believe there is any need for an amendment to the agreement between the Army and police on the handling of military cases by police.

He pointed out that servicemen dismissed from active service can be tried in civilian courts.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak said the Defence and Interior ministries will hold a joint study to determine whether it would be proper to allow military men booked on criminal offences to be tried in a civilian court.

Gen Wichit said he personally believed that both the military and civilian courts were equally qualified to ensure justice as judges of both courts normally came from the same law schools.

Since the judges had studied the same text books, no doubts should linger on their standards of judgment, Gen Wichit commented.

The Defence Minister said the present delay in the handover of the suspects to the Ranong police station is probably the result of the Army's own bureaucratic process.

"There should not be any problem as the commanders at all level have reaffirmed that they would allow justice to prevail in the case," Gen Wichit said.

Fighting With Burma Expected in Hill Dispute

BK2811031392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Nov 92 p A1

[Text] Confrontation is inevitable between Thai and Burmese troops in the ongoing border dispute over a strategic hill in this southern province, a top provincial official said yesterday.

Chumphon Deputy Governor Wimon Suwansupha said about 300 Burmese troops have been sent to reinforce the disputed Hill 491, while Thai border patrol police forces were deployed nearby.

"It is difficult to avoid the confrontation," he said.

Military and provincial authorities agreed during a meeting yesterday to prepare the mass evacuation of people from villagers around the strategic hill in the event that fighting erupts between the Thai and Burmese troops, said Wimon.

The villagers will be given temporary shelter at schools in Tha Sae district's township, he said.

The provincial administration is ready to start evacuating the villagers as quickly as possible if fighting breaks out, he said.

Burmese troops have been occupying Hill 491 in Tha Sae since they captured it during an offensive against Karen ethnic minority guerrillas in February.

According to reports, they have dug in and reinforced their positions there.

Chumphon provincial officials and local military commanders have failed in several rounds of talks with their Burmese counterparts to make the Burmese troops withdraw from the disputed hill.

Thai and Burmese negotiators could not reach agreement on the hill at the latest meeting of the Thai-Burmese Border Committee in Chiang Mai last week.

The two sides also failed to agree on sending technical teams to survey the area.

Hill 491 is not the only part of the Thai-Burmese border whose ownership is unclear as virtually the whole of the border is not clearly demarcated.

Wimon said he had learned that Chumphon MP Suwarot Phalang has submitted a motion to the House of Representatives asking it to study the Hill 491 case and find ways to resolve the dispute.

He said the Burmese are using old British maps to back their claim for sovereignty over the hill while Thai military maps show that it is on Thai soil.

Wimol said that judging from the geographical location of the hill, he was certain that it is on the Thai side of the border.

Supreme Command spokesman Lt Gen Anuson Kritsanaserani said on Thursday the border dispute over Hill 491 would be the subject of further talks in Rangoon on Nov 30.

He said Thai forces along the border have been put on alert to prevent Burmese troops crossing into Thailand and harassing local villagers during operations against Karen guerrillas.

Anuson said the situation along the Thai-Burmese border has become tense as Rangoon forces step up their military campaign against the guerrillas.

He said there had been numerous incursions by Burmese troops in pursuit of the Karens.

If the Burmese launched heavy ground and air attacks against the Kawmura or Wangkaew camps opposite Tak's Mae Sot district, or Manerplaw, near Mae Hong Son's Muan district, as expected, many Thai villagers would have to be evacuated safety, he said.

NSC Head: Force 'Last Resort'

BK2911031292 Bangkok SUNDAY POST in English 29 Nov 92 p 3

[Text] National Security Council secretary-general Charan Kunlawanit says Thailand will continue to settle territorial conflicts in Chumphon with Burma through diplomacy and military action is the last resort.

Gen Charan said yesterday Thailand originally gave Rangoon until November 15 to withdraw its troops from Hill 491 in Tha Sae District, Chumphon.

However, the deadline was put back after the Burmese military leadership asked that Burma be given some time to consider the request.

The Burmese request was conveyed to the Thai Government through a senior Thai military officer who visited Rangoon recently, Gen Charan said without elaborating. It is understood he was referring to Supreme Commander ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Woranat Aphichari who recently visited Rangoon.

Gen Charan said that because both countries lay claims to Hill 491, a joint effort will be needed to verify the location of the hill.

He said, however, both countries must consider clearing all their troops from the zone while talks are under way to establish its ownership.

General Charan, meanwhile, said Burmese students taking political asylum in Thailand will no longer enjoy the leniency previously extended to them by the authorities but will be treated as illegal immigrants if they refuse to enter a holding camp by the end of this month.

He said strict legal action will be taken against all the students if they fail to meet tomorrow's deadline.

"We have been lenient with the students. We have asked them to refrain from engaging in any anti-Rangoon political activities here but the students have refused to offer any promise."

He said the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has expressed support for the Thai Government's plan to place the Burmese students inside the camp in Ratchaburi Province.

The UNHCR has promised to stop providing financial help to the Burmese students if they continue to refuse to cooperate with Thai officials in the plan Gen Charan said.

In Mae Sot, Thailand and Burma failed to agree at a meeting yesterday on Rangoon's proposal for an adjustment in the exchange rate between the Thai baht and the Burmese kyat.

The Thai delegation was led by Col Suwit Maenmuan, chairman of the Thai-Burmese Local Border Committee while the Burmese side was led by Maj Tun Tun Lay, commander of the Myawaddy-based 357th Battalion.

Rangoon made the proposal after its currency dropped from 0.30 baht per kyat to only 0.22-0.23 baht per kyat following a sharp drop in cross-border trade.

The trade volume, estimated at about 10 million baht per day at the beginning of the year, has now dropped to less than one million baht.

The kyat slide was attributed to Rangoon's policy to close the border for several months.

Maj Tun Tun Lay said if Bangkok accepted the proposal Burma would lift restrictions on Thai exports and imports.

Under such a scenario, he said, crossborder trade would be handled by the chambers of commerce of the two countries and Burma would be strict against illegal trading.

Tak Chamber of Commerce president Niyom Wairattanaphanit said the Thai side was willing to adjust the exchange rate provided Burma could guarantee that it would match its exports to Thailand by importing Thai goods of an equal value.

Karen Guerrillas Deny 'Stronghold'

BK3011014592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Nov 92 p A2

[Text] Armed ethnic Karen guerrillas have rejected Rangoon allegations that they had established a military stronghold on Hill 491 in Chumphon province, saying the Burma Army had concocted the story as a pretext to capture the strategic terrain.

Burma's seizure of Hill 491 is to prevent the Karen National Union (KNU) from spreading its influence and areas of operation to southern Burma, particularly the lower part of the Tenasserim Division, Karen officers told THE NATION in a recent interview.

The KNU, which has been fighting the Burmese military government for greater autonomy and equality for over four decades, has been operating from border bases, mainly in the Karen and Mon States, down to the upper part of the Tenasserim Division—the areas opposite Thailand's Mae Hong Son and stretching down to Kanchanaburi and Prachuap Khiri Khan provinces.

But because of the loss of a number of its camps in the North, the KNU has lately begun to spread and build up strength to the south of the Tenasserim Division and deeper inside Burma.

The Karen officers, who asked not to be named, said the KNU "has always respected Thai sovereignty and Thai people" and had never constructed military bases on Thai soil nor operated from Thai territory as charged by Rangoon and the Burmese Army.

They rejected the Burmese allegation that they had set up a camp on Thai Hill 491, which is in Tha Sae district of Chumphon, and used it to stage forays into the Irrawady Delta. They said the KNU 12th battalion headquarters of Ywahaylu was, in fact, located on a lowland about two kilometres south of the hill.

"The KNU has never stayed nor built a camp on the Thai hill. The ones who are [encroaching] on Thai soil are Burmese troops ... Burma's army does not want the KNU to get well established in the area because they are afraid that we will get very strong and make it difficult for them," said a senior Karen, offcer from Ywahaylu camp.

Burma's army and the KNU forces had engaged in several clashes near the hill since January this year. In February Burmese troops had intruded and dug in on Hill 491, claiming the right to move in and occupy the KNU base there.

The Thai govemment and the Thai Army have repeatedly rejected Burmese claims of ownership to the hill, saying Thailand has never allowed any anti-government groups to set up camps on Thai soil. Thai attempts in several rounds of peaceful negotiations to persuade the Burmese troops to withdraw from the area have been unsuccessful.

The latest failure took place in a meeting last month in Chiang Mai of the Thai-Burmese Regional Border Committee during which the Burmese delegation claimed that Hill 491, or Hill 1542 according to Burmese topographical references, belonged to Rangoon.

Although Thai Army Commander in Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit and other senior Army officers did not rule out the use of force in the final scenario to expel the Burmese intruders, they expressed hope that negotiations would finally lead to a peaceful solution and that the Burmese soldiers would leave Thai soil.

According to the Karen officers from Ywahaylu camp, Burmese troops are determined to stay on the hill because they had suffered severe casualties and tremendous losses of arms and ammunition in battles with the Karens.

Burma, he said, had sent two battalions, the 17th and the 224th from Bokpyin, in late December last year to attack Ywahaylu and that skirmishes have taken place since early January. The biggest Burmese assault, however, started at 4 am on Jan 16 and lasted until Feb 21.

During the attack, Burmese soldiers also advanced to capture Hill 491 which overlooked the Ywahaylu camp. But they finally withdrew when KNU forces cut off their supply and reinforcement lines, he said. He added that the KNU was forced to abandon Ywahaylu base, which was established only in 1989.

He said 116 Burmese soldiers were killed and 409 wounded, while the Karens lost 18 troops with 38 others wounded between Jan 16 to Feb 18.

The heavy loss of life led the Burmese army to resume its troops and send in three more battalions, heavy arms and ammunition including two 120-mm mortars, four 81-mm mortars and a number of Yugoslav-made 76-mm and 75-mm recoilless rifles.

Of the five Burmese battalions, four were combat battalions and one was a transportation and guard battalion.

Burma Said Protecting Gas Firms

BK3011022392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Nov 92 p A1

[Text] Burma is detertnined to hold on to the disputed Hill 491 on the border opposite Chumphon to protect foreign companies exploring for natural gas in the

Mataban Gulf from harassment by Karen insurgents, Thai military sources said yesterday.

One of the firms exploring in the area is the French oil giant Total, which is soon to enter into a partnership with a state-owned Thai petroleum firm.

The sources said Rangoon flushed out the Karen from the disputed hill in February and has maintained a military presence in the area following complaints by the firms that they were being hampered by Karen insurgents.

Thailand and Burma have laid contending claims to the hill which straddles their common border. Thailand has tried unsuccessfully to persuade Burma to withdraw its troops from the hill which it claims is located in Tha Sae district of Chumphon.

The sources said a helicopter used by one of the foreign petroleum firms was forced to abort an exploration trip because of the presence of Karen guerrillas in an area near the Mataban Gulf.

PTT Exploration and Production, an exploration arm of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT), is negotiating with Total for a partnership in a natural gas development project in the Burmese gulf. Total signed a natural gas exploration accord with Rangoon in July this year.

The sources said Burmese troops regard the hill as a strategic point in their fight against the ethnic Karens. If the Burmnese want to launch a decisive strike against the Karens they would have to cross into Thai territory to trap the guerrillas from behind.

The sources said Thailand had declined a Burmese request to allow their troops to enter Thai territory.

One of the reasons Thai authorities have refused to cooperate with Rangoon is that they are afraid Thai logging activities, which need to operate through Karen-controlled areas, would be affected.

Vietnam

U.S. Economic Embargo Against Cuba Condemned

BK2711064192 Hanoi VNA in English 0548 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 27—"The Vietnamese Government and people fully sympathize with and strongly support the Cuban Government and people's demand that the US Government put an immediate end to its economic, trade and financial embargo against Cuba", declared Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang at the UN General Assembly on Nov. 24 before the vote on this issue.

"Vietnam strongly believes that the abolishment of the embargo policy against Cuba and other countries will greatly contribute to the economic development in all nations and help enhance peace and cooperation in the world", the Vietnamese ambassador added .

Nguyen Duc Binh Receives Visiting PRC Delegation

BK2911153192 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 24 Nov 92

[Text] On 23 November, at the party Central Committee Guest House, Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and concurrently secretary of the party Central Committee and director of the Nguyen Ai Quoc Party School received the visiting delegation of the party school of the Communist Party of China led by Comrade (Tiet Co), deputy director of the school.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh warmly welcomed the Chinese delegation. The purpose of the visit is aimed at studying and exchanging experiences on training party cadres and scientific research between the two schools.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh highly appraised the Chinese delegation's visit. He said the visit has helped normalize relations between the two party schools in particular, and strengthen the relationship between the two parties and peoples in general.

PRC Premier Li Peng Arrives

BK3011104492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Chinese Premier Li Peng and his wife were warmly welcomed here in Hanoi on Monday. He was accompanied by Minister of External Trade Li Lanqing, Vice Secretary General of the Great People's Congress He Chunlin, and Chairman of the Foreign Relations Office of the Great People's Congress Qi Huaiyuan, and many other Chinese officials.

Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet warmly talked to the Chinese guests. He, on behalf of the Vietnamese Government, welcomed the visit and maintained that the visit will create a new step in improving the relations between the two countries.

Premier Li Peng, on his part, (?conveyed) Chinese leaders best wishes to the Vietnamese leaders. He said the situation of normalize relations [as heard] between Vietnam and China will continue to develop.

Spratlys 'Leading Issue'

BK3011085292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0830 GMT 30 Nov 92

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Excerpts] Hanoi, Nov 30 (AFP)—Chinese Premier Li Peng arrived here Monday for talks that Vietnamese

officials said would focus on the Spratly islands, where competing claims to sovereignty have put China and Vietnam at loggerheads.

Li, the first Chinese premier to visit Vietnam since Zhou Enlai in 1971, said before leaving Beijing that he hoped Vietnam would agree to negotiations aimed at resolving the Spratlys dispute.

"China stands for the settlement of disputes between countries through peaceful negotiations without resort to force. I hope the Vietnamese Government will support and react to China's views on the question," he said.

Competing national claims to the potentially oil-rich Spratlys have made the desolate island chain in the South China Sea one of Asia's primary potential flashpoints for conflict.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, on hand to greet Li, told AFP that the Spratly issue would "certainly" occupy a leading place in talks with the Chinese premier, who is to remain in Vietnam until Friday. [passage omitted]

Vietnamese sources said they were expecting more peaceful pronouncements during Li's five-day visit, but were not optimistic about making much progress on concrete questions, such as reopening official road crossings and the newly repaired rail-line between the countries.

Untaxed imports from China are pummelling Vietnamese industry as official crossings remain closed due to disagreement over border demarcation.

Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet greeted Li before a full military honor guard at the Presidential Palace after the Chinese premier traveled from the airport in a motorcade. [passage omitted]

'Great Significance' of Visit Hailed

BK3011033492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Nov 92

[30 November NHAN DAN editorial: "An Important Event in the Relations of Sino-Vietnamese Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] At the invitation of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, today [30 November] Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng will begin his official friendship visit to Vietnam.

Following an official visit to China in November 1991 of a high-level Vietnamese delegation led by Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; and by Comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, that affirmed the normalization of relations between the two countries, this official friendship visit to Vietnam of Prime Minister Li Peng will be of great significance.

Vietnam and China are neighbors. The peoples of the two countries are inherently endowed with an age-old traditional friendship. The party, state, and people of Vietnam have always treasured this friendship.

Since the high-level Sino-Vietnamese meeting held in the latter part of last year, the relations between the two countries have developed on the basis of the five principles of respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, nonaggression toward each other, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, eguality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. The two sides have also signed a number of agreements on the exchange of visits by delegations in various domains of work aimed at promoting relations of friendship and cooperation.

In their joint message of greetings on PRC National Day early last October, our party and state leaders noted with joy the satisfactory improvements in the Sino-Vietnamese relations. The message said: The Vietnamese party and government is convinced that based on those agreements already reached between the two countries' top leaders and on those principles in the Sino-Vietnmaese joint communique in November 1991, and with the spirit of mutual respect and mutual understanding and with efforts of both sides, the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop. Those issues left by history or newly arising shall be settled on the basis of the principles of peaceful negotiations, equality, mutual respect, and in the interest of both sides. This will meet the long-term, fundamental interest of the two peoples and will benefit peace, stability, and cooperation in the region and the world.

A message of congratulations from Prime Minister Li Peng to Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet in last October also pointed out: Constantly consolidating and strengthening the Sino-Vietnamese relations will meet the fundamental and common aspirations of the two peoples. Through mutual efforts, it is certain that the good-neighborly Sino-Vietnamese relations will continue to further develop.

Against this background, we believe that this official friendship visit to Vietnam of Prime Minister Li Peng will produce good results, marking a new step of development in the Sino-Vietnamese relations of friendship and cooperation.

We wish more achievements for the reform and door-opening in line with the resolution of the 14th congress of the Communist Party of China.

We wish the Chinese people better life, happiness, and prosperity.

Do Muoi Leads Delegation to Lao Leader's Funeral

BK2711154792 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 27—A high-level party and state delegation of Vietnam led by Do Muoi, general

secretary of the Communist Party, arrived in Vientiane this morning to attend the funeral of President Kaysone Phomvihan.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Phoun Sipaseut, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, and other Lao party and state leaders.

Immediately after its arrival, the delegation came to pay homage to President Kaysone Phomvihan at the Supreme People's Assembly hall where he lies in state.

The same day, General Vo Nguyen Giap arried in Vientiane for the same purpose. Right after his arrival, Gen. Giap paid last tribute to President Kaysone Phomvihan at the assembly hall.

Do Muoi Attends Cremation

BK2911125792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] On 28 November, a SRV party and state delegation led by Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, attended the cremation ceremony of Lao President Kaysone Phomvihan.

At 1430 [0730 GMT], Comrade Do Muoi and his entourage attended the cremation ceremony at the That Luang Pagoda in front of the Lao National Assembly. The ceremony was organized in accordance with the Lao multiethnic people's traditional rites. Before the cremation, Comrade Do Muoi and other dignitaries went to the special pavillion where late President Kaysone Phomvihan's body was placed to light incense to pay last respects to him. Afterward, Comrade Do Muoi bid farewell to Comrades Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and prime minister; Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] and chairman of Lao Supreme People's Assembly; other members of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau; and the family of late President Kaysone Phomvihan.

Later that day Comrade Do Muoi and his entourage, which included Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the SRV National Assembly; Nguyen Thi Binh, SRV vice president; Phan Van Khan, SRV deputy prime minister; Le Phuoc Tho, chief of the party Central Committee Organization Department; and General Vo Nguyen Giap, paid a visit to the family of late President Kaysone Phomvihan. Comrade Do Muoi solicitiously inquired about the health of Mrs. Kaysone Phomvihan, and expressed the profound regret of our party, Armed Forces, and people upon learning of Comrade Kaysone's demise. Comrade Do Muoi urged the bereaved family to take good care of themselves and, together with the entire LPRP and people, to continue the cause of Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan. Mrs. Kaysone Phomvihan sincerely thanked the CPV Central Committee, the SRV president, SRV National Assembly, and other Vietnamese leaders for their kindness and assistance to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan. During his illness, Vietnamese physicians tried their best to help cure the ailment. Upon learning of his demise, the CPV, the SRV state, the National Assembly, and the Vietnam Fatherland Front expressed their profound regret, highly hailed Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan's glorious achievements, and assigned a party and state delegation to attend the cremation ceremony. Mrs. Kaysone Phomvihan said: Although President Kaysone Phomvihan has passed away, the special friendship between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam will be consistently consolidated and developed.

At 1800 [1100 GMT] on 28 November, the SRV party and state delegation left Vientiane for Vietnam. Seeing the delegation off at Vientiane's airport were Phoun Sipaseut, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and deputy prime miniser; [words indistinct]; Vietnamese Ambassador to Laos Nguyen Xuan; officials of the Vietnamese Embassy in Vientiane; and representatives of Vietnamese agencies in Laos.

Cambodian Cross-Border Killings Condemned

BK2711152792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Today, 27 November, the Foreign Ministry spokesperson was asked by some foreign correspondents about an armed Cambodian group, which on 12 November 1992 crossed the Cambodian border into Loc Hoa village in Loc Ninh District, Song Be Province. This Cambodian group took nine Vietnamese people away, killed four of them, shot and injured a four-year-old child, and raped two Vietnamese women. The spokesperson confirmed that this incident had actually occurred and on 20 November 1992, the Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia sent a diplomatic note to the SNC [Supreme National Council] Secretariat, UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], and the foreign minister of the State of Cambodia to demand an immediate investigation of the incident, strict punishment for the offenders, the prevention of further similar activities, and compensation for the victims' families.

After the killings of Vietnamese people in Cambodia by the Khmer Rouge, this incident is a very serious action violating Vietnam's sovereignty, human rights, and the Paris agreement on Cambodia. Vietnam requests that the SNC Secretariat, UNTAC, and the Cambodian Government immediately implement the demands mentioned in the 20 November diplomatic note of the Vietnamese Embassy in Phnom Penh.

French Frigate Makes Port Call at Haiphong

BK2611145592 Hanoi VNA in English 1326 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 26—The French surveillance frigate Nivose made a port call at Haiphong Port on

Tuesday. The ship was warmly received by officials of the municipal people's committee and concerned offices in the spirit of the friendly relations and fruitful cooperation between Vietnam and France. For technical reasons, the ship had to leave Haiphong earlier than scheduled.

CPV Delegation Visits Germany 22-27 Nov

BK2911143192 Hanoi VNA in English 1405 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Novembre 29 [dateline as received]—a delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] led by Dao Duy Tung, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee, visited Germany from Nov. 22-27. While in Germany, the delegation called on the leadership of various political parties in the FRG including the German Social Democratic Party (SDP), the German Communist Party (DKP) and the Democratic Socialist Party of Germany (SDP). Dao Duy Tung expressed the Vietnamese people's sincere gratitude to all German friends who had suported Vietnam's national liberation struggle in the past and are supporting Vietnam's national construction efforts at present.

Vo Van Kiet Sends Message to PLO's 'Arafat

BK2811144392 Hanoi VNA in English 1427 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 28—Premier Vo Van Kiet today sent a message of greeting to the UN General Secretary, Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali, and the Palestinian State President and PLO President, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, on the 45th International Day for Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The message reads: "Once again we affirm our unshakable support for the Palestinian people's just struggle to regain their sacred fundamental rights, including the right to self-determination, the right to return home and the right to set up an independent and sovereignty state. We welcome the convening of a peace conference on the Middle East and hold that an equitable and comprehensive solution to the question of the Middle East and Palestine can be obtained only on the basis of resolutions 242 and 338 of the UN Security Council and that Israel must withdraw all its troops from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, stop the bulding of settlements in these areas and recognize the Palestinian people's fundamental national rights. In this spirit, we support the stance and goodwill of the Palestinian delegation at current peace talks on the Middle East."

Trade With Australia 'Developing'

BK2911073492 Hanoi VNA in English 0704 GMT 29 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 29—Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating has affirmed that Australia as a country in the Asia-Pacific region has the obligation to help in the development of this region.

He said that each year 72 percent of the value of Australia's exports go to countries in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), 67 percent of its imports come from these countries.

Trade between Vietnam and Australia is developing. In mid-June 1991 the two countries signed a new agreement on commerce and economic cooperation.

Vietnam's main exports to Australia are aquatic products of which rose to 18 million US dollars in the peak year. Each year Australia imports more than 300 million US dollars worth of aquatic products. Part of Vietnam's marine products imported by Australia has been re-exported. With regard to farm produce, Australia imports from Vietnam yellow maize, sesame, coffee, cashew nut, pepper and other spices such as chilli, garlic, ground saffron, coconut oil and copra...

Many Australian companies have bought Vietnam's rice for re-export.

A number of articles of the Vietnamese industry, small industry, and handicrafts such as shoes, sandals, garments, lacquer paintings, ceramics, furniture...have also entered the Australian market, but their quantity remains small due to competition by Chinese and Taiwanese goods.

Woollen carpet is a very promising export item to Australia, minerals like coal, crude oil and chemicals are also imported to Australia for re-export.

Vietnam imports from Australia special-purpose equipment for the timber industry, telecommunications and refrigerating industry as well as farm produce processing machines, animal feed processing chains, huskers, iron and steel, aluminium, various kinds of chemicals, and a number of processed foods such as powdered milk, butter oil, sugar, and wheat flour.

Bureau Directive on Corruption, Smuggling

BK2711163692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Nov 92

["Text" of directive of the party Central Committee Political Bureau on "Continued Prevention and Elimination of Corruption and Smuggling," dated 22 November]

[Text] Since 1990 when Directive No. 64 of the party Central Committee Secretariat and Decision No. 240 of the Council of Ministers—now known as the government—on corruption control were issued, various sectors and echelons have strived to adopt many measures. The results obtained have, however, remained very poor.

Corruption and smuggling continue to develop in a serious manner for many reasons. Judging from the leadership responsibility of various party committee echelons, an important reason for this is that many party committee echelons lack close guidance and have failed to closely link party building and cadre-related work

with efforts to fight corruption and smuggling. The consideration of disciplinary action against corrupt cadres is usually not stern enough and there have been cases of evasion. Even worse, party committee echelons have interfered in the trial of corrupt cadres by legal organs.

To step up the struggle to prevent and eliminate corruption and smuggling, the Political Bureau urges various party committee echelons to promptly implement the following tasks:

1. From now on, party committee echelons should regard the issue of fighting corruption and smuggling as one of their permanent tasks. In the period ahead, they should provide close guidance for various administrative sectors and echelons to map out an action plan for each sector and each echelon in accordance with the prime minister's Directive No. 47 dated 3 November 1992 in which special emphasis was placed on a program for preventing and eliminating corruption and smuggling in each public organ or unit.

All party members, particularly party committee members, should exemplarily carry out their duty as specified in their plans of action. If they fail to fulfill their duty, they should seriously criticize themselves and subject themselves to punishment.

2. The government should issue a new decision on urgent policies and measures aimed at carrying on the prevention and elimination of corruption and smuggling in a decisive and effective fashion in order to meet requirements dictated by the situation. The struggle to prevent and eliminate corruption and smuggling is very difficult and complex. Therefore, it is necessary to carry it out in a persistent and constant manner. In 1993, efforts should be concentrated on effecting drastic changes for the better and creating premises for constantly stepping up this struggle in the ensuing period.

To create conditions for the strugle to prevent and eliminate corruption, state organs are responsible for reexamining, revising, supplementing, and introducing measures to perfect the legal system and structure, especially those legal documents on preventing and eliminating corruption and smuggling such as the criminal code and the law on criminal procedures. As an immediate task, we should select some points in those legal documents now in force for prompt revision or amendment prior to presenting them to the National Assembly for approval at its December 1992 session.

The government should issue a decision on and provide guidance for publicly declaring financial transactions and financial distributions at all grass-roots organizations in order to create conditions for the masses to excercise their right to supervision. The government should consider promulgating a law to force questionable persons, including high-level cadres, to declare their assets. It is imperative to prosecute and try those found guilty of corruption, bribe-taking, smuggling, and abusing their positions to misinterpret the law. Special attention should be paid to those sectors and areas of work where there are indications of large-scale corruption such as those dealing with the allocation of funds for capital construction, the organization of bids for construction projects, the granting of permission for exports and imports, financial management, tax collection, housing and land price administration, allocation of land for construction projects, and so forth.

Stern disciplinary action should be targeted against those cases where the culprits are individuals in high positions. We should reinforce the need to severely punish the stubborn while being lenient toward those who have committed a wrongdoing but who have repented and returned to the public budget the amount of money or assets they obtained illegally.

We should carry out this process scrupulously, trying to avoid creating a heavy and tense atmosphere. We should create a pure and stable environment for various economic activities. Through this struggle, we should purify the state apparatus, supplement and improve the effect of the law, and revamp the law and discipline in production and business activities.

Adjudication activities should be carried out in accordance with the law. As an immediate task, we should choose some cases for trial, using this as a means of deterence. We should use the form of initial hearings and final court trials for some important cases. We should severely deal with all cases where superiors condon their subordinates' wrongdoings and should regard this practice as an act of giving a helping hand to the corrupt and to smugglers. We should intensify our close guidance over the enforcement of court verdicts, ensuring adequate enforcement of all court sentences. We should strengthen law enforcement organs, providing them with additional material bases, working means, and operational funds, and ensure an appropriate wage system for them.

3. Party committee echelons should carefully study and map out plans to deploy this decision of the prime minister on urgent measures to be taken to prevent and eliminate corruption and smuggling in conjunction with efforts to implement Resolution No. 03 on party renovation and rectification.

It is necessary to organize and motivate the Vietnam Fatherland Front, mass organizations, and mass news media to participate in the struggle against corruption and smuggling, and to denounce and condemn criminal acts while promptly commending positive factors—those who have exemplarily complied with the law and struggled against indications of wrongdoings.

The standing members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and the Secretariat should provide direct guidance for the struggle against corruption and smuggling and should delegate Comrade Vo Van Kiet with the duty of providing constant guidance for state law enforcement organs.

The party Central Committee Inspection Department, the party Central Committee Internal Affairs Department, and other related organs should enforce those policies already adopted by the Political Bureau and should decide on the trials of serious cases in this domain.

The Political Bureau requests that the party committees of various levels each designate a key party committee member to provide direct guidance for the above task and to regularly report their work to higher-echelon party committee so the latter can compile a roundup report to be presented to the Secretariat on the results of the implementation of this directive.

Australia

24-Hour Political Strike Disrupts Industry

BK3011024092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0226 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Sydney, Nov 30 (AFP)—Ports, airports, ambulance services and industry throughout Australia faced disruption Monday as tens of thousands of workers joined what appeared to be the country's biggest political strike in recent years.

The southeastern state of Victoria bore the brunt of action to protest against the industrial relations policies of Victoria's recently elected conservative state government and those of the national conservative opposition.

Under new Victorian laws, workers will lose entitlements they have enjoyed for decades such as holiday bonuses and extra payments for working unsociable hours.

Unions say the national conservative opposition would introduce similar policies to those of Victoria if it wins the upcoming national general election due before May.

In the Victorian capital of Melbourne, thousands of workers marched in two rallies which linked in the city before moving on to State Parliament House.

Morning domestic flights in and out of Melbourne were rescheduled because of a meeting by baggage and cargo handlers but by mid-morning flights were back to normal.

However, the impact of the 24-hour strike was felt to some degree throughout the country, with protest rallies being held in most states.

Building sites, car manufacturing plants, oil, gas, wool and meat industries were hit by some form of strike action.

Ambulance services were being disrupted nationwide with only emergency and essential operations guaranteed, but other public services were not expected to be severely disrupted.

The protest has been co-ordinated by the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), the national umbrella of the union movement.

The opposition's industrial relations spokesman John Howard described the protest as a national day of shame.

The leader of the union movement in New South Wales, State Labor Council secretary Michael Easson, said the strike was aimed at educating the public about what they stood to lose under conservative governments—not confrontation.

But New South Wales Premier John Fahey described it as a return to the bad old days of union bloody mindedness.

Business leaders said the strike was futile and would cost industry hundreds of millions of dollars in lost production.

Evans, Singaporean Premier Meet, Discuss Security

BK3011121492 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] The Cambodian peace process was brought up during talks between the foreign minister, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, and his Australian counterpart Mr. Gareth Evans in Canberra today. Both men hoped that the Khmer Rouge will not stand in the way to implement the Paris agreement in Cambodia. They also exchanged views on regional security in the light of the changing international environment. Both ministers had reiterated the contuining relevance of the five power defense arrangement.

Mr. Wong is in Australia for a five-day visit to the New South Wales to enhance cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.

26 Percent Rise in Last Quarter Profits Noted

BK2711074492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Australia's company profits have jumped to their highest levels since March 1990 inspite of the economy's sluggish growth. Belinda Trump reports from Melbourne that economists say the rise concerned a longer-term trend of growth in profits evident over the last year.

[Begin Trump recording] Company profits climbed to $4 billion seasonally adjusted in September quarter—a rise of 26 percent, but analysts say because companies are cutting their costs to increase profit margins in the economic downturn. Meanwhile, September quarter balance of payment figures released today show Australia's exports have fallen, while imports have continued to rise.

The quarterly figures present a worst picture that the monthly figures as it showed the volume of imports and exports, rather than the price. [sentence as heard] The quarterly current account deficit rose 19 percent to $4.2 billion. [end recording]

Trade, Investment Agreement With U.S. Noted

BK2611080892 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] United States and Australia has concluded a new bilateral trade and investment agreement. Steve Sailor reports from Washington:

[Begin Sailor recording] The new agreement called the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, TIFA, was proposed by President Bush during his Australian visit in January when he said such an agreement would enhance economic ties, reduce barriers, and enhance